Questions and Answers from the Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Grant Program Information Session
12/19/2023

Q1: Can we apply to multiple tracks at once?

A1: Yes. We do not have any restrictions on the number of applications an organization submits to one or more programs. We encourage you to reach out to us to discuss your project ideas and obtain guidance.

Q2: What is grey infrastructure?

A2: Grey infrastructure include pipes, ditches, concrete swales, curbs, etc., and is described as anything that transfers stormwater, but does not allow it to infiltrate and does not assist with improving water quality.

Q3: Do any of these tracks allow staff planning or hourly time to be added into the financial sheet?

A3: Yes, staff planning and hourly time is an allowable cost, which can be added to the financial management spreadsheet. Allowable budget items include personnel, supplies, contractual, travel, field trip fees, other, and indirect. The application budget instructions tab within the spreadsheet has more information on this, along with our Financial Management Spreadsheet webinar recording found at https://cbtrust.org/forms-policies/.

Q4: Does the tree planting program pay for removal and planting? Can apartment/condo complexes apply?

A1: Please visit the Urban Trees Grant Program website at https://cbtrust.org/grants/urban-trees/ to learn about eligible project types and eligible applicants.

Q5: Would training crews on green infrastructure maintenance be covered under Track 5? A specific example for this would be the CBLP crews training.

A5: Yes, Track 5 can support job training and green job workforce development that would result in increased knowledge of green infrastructure maintenance techniques, inspection frequencies, and how to address common issues to help improve overall project success and sustainability.

Q6: For a community that is located in a food desert, is a farmer's market – in conjunction with our urban farm – covered by the grant? If so, which Track?

A6: Track 4: Community Greening can support urban farms and we encourage you to reach out to us to discuss you project idea further.

Q7: Can existing Green Schools apply for this grant? Specifically Butterfly Garden Courtyard, which is already in existence but needs immediate revitalization – and needs maintenance support as well. Where would maintenance for the garden fit?

A7: Yes, educational institutions are eligible to apply. Track 4: Community Greening can support butterfly gardens and associated maintenance activities.

Q8: Would the planting of shrubs and creation of pollinator rock garden fit with Track 4?

A8: Yes, this would fit within Track 4.

Q9: What assistance does the Trust staff offer if a community does not have the capacity to issue an erosion control? Would you be able to provide direct design and planning support?

A9: For communities in need of technical assistance, we encourage you to explore Track 1 and Track 6 of the program. The Trust can meet with you to discuss your options and determine which track is appropriate for your community's needs.

Q10: Would an existing parking lot qualify for permeable pavement?

A10: Yes, removal of an impervious surface parking lot and replacing it with permeable pavement is an eligible project.

Q11: Do the programs have preferred vendors?

A11: No, but you can request previously used vendors by past applicants.

Q12: Would the removal and replacement of trees qualify under this grant program?

A12: Yes, this program can support the removal of invasive/dying trees and replace them with native species. For projects in Maryland whose main element is tree planting, we encourage you to apply to the Urban Trees Grant Program (https://cbtrust.org/grants/urban-trees/).

Q13: To confirm, bids are necessary when contracting is greater than $10k? Are there restrictions of contractors we need to hire?

A13: This program is funded in part by federal funds and therefore awarded projects must adhere to federal procurement requirements. You must obtain or have obtained at least three estimates for any work to be performed by subcontractors greater than $10,000 and less than $250,000, must keep documentation on the estimates, and must use good faith efforts to engage disadvantaged/minority/women business enterprises. There are no restrictions on contractors you need to hire, as long as you follow these procurement requirements.

Q14: If you must obtain bids, how long must the ads run before a contractor can be selected? Can the project lead select the contractor, or must the Trust select the contractor?

A14: You must **either** release a request for proposal and receive bids **or** obtain three cost estimates. There is no set timeframe for how long the ads must run. The applicant/awardee is responsible for selection of contractors for Tracks 1 through 5. For Track 6, the Trust will release a Request for Proposals and select a contractor.

Q15: What is the funding limit/total amount awarded if approved?

A15: The funding limit varies for each project Track. Please see the Request for Proposals for the general request amounts for each Track.

Q16: If a potential project is in a flood zone, is that a problem?

A16: We cannot say if this would or would not be a problem without additional information. Please reach out to us to discuss your project idea.

Q17: Step two of the application process was setting up a meeting with the Trust team. How do we go about setting this up?

A17: While a meeting and/or site visit is not required, we are available to provide guidance and assistance throughout the entire process from project development to application submittal. We encourage you to attend our office hours sessions on 1/11, 1/25, 2/8, 2/22, and 3/4 between 12:30pm and 1:15pm. These will be drop-in style virtual meetings, where you can join and ask

questions or chat with us about your project. Join us on Zoom at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84002581212. You may also reach out directly to Nguyen Le at nle@cbtrust.org or 410-974-2941 x110 and if needed, schedule a meeting at https://calendly.com/nle_cbtrust.

Q18: Does the community greening project have to be at a fixed location, or are roving pop-up style community engagement events eligible?
A18: Yes, the community greening project must be a fixed, in-the-ground project. For community engagement events, those may be held in various locations as appropriate for the proposed project.

Q19: When you say "potential to be implemented," does that include the design track applications as well?
A19: Yes, this includes Track 1 for Conceptual Plans and Track 2 for Engineered Designs. One of the most important criteria used to evaluate concept and engineered design proposals is the likelihood of ultimate implementation.

Q20: Could you remind us of the G3 application timeline?
A20: The Green Streets Grant Program will close promptly at 4pm ET on March 7th, 2024.

Q21: Are additional partners and resources beneficial to our application, and should we include this in our proposal?
A21: Yes, additional partners and resources are beneficial and would strengthen your application. You application should include Letters of Commitment from project partners. More information about Letters of Commitment can be found at https://cbtrust.org/forms-policies/.

Q22: Can you apply for multi-year funding, or is this funding for one year?
A22: Projects must be completed within 12 months upon receipt of the award. Requests to extend the project completion period will be reviewed and considered on a case-by-case basis. If your proposed project can be completed within one year but it is not ideal, you may propose a longer project period with justification.