

City of Lawrence CDBG/HOME Programs Grant Application

I. Cover Sheet

Please use this cover sheet as the first page of your proposal. No cover letters, please.

Agency Name: Department of Public Works, City of Lawrence, Kansas

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 708, 6 E. 6th Street, Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Program Address, if different than above: N/A

Contact Name: Walt Ward Phone: (785) 832-3125

Contact Title: City Surveyor

E-mail (required): wward@ci.lawrence.ks.us Fax : (785)832-3398

Date : December 01, 2008

Mission of organization:

We are committed to providing excellent city services that enhance the quality of life for the Lawrence community.

II. Project Information

Requested \$220,000.00 Request is 75% of project budget and 1% of agency budget.

Attachment Checklist

- ☐ Department approval, if applicable
- ☐ List of officers and board members and their principal occupations (one per agency)
- ☐ Most recent annual report and (one per agency) financial statement
- ☒ Budget for proposed project, including revenues and expenses (one per project)

Project Type

(Check all that apply)

- ☒ Strengthen Neighborhoods
- ☐ Movement to housing
- ☐ Emergency Assistance
- ☐ Affordable Housing
- ☐ Housing Counseling
- ☐ Home Ownership
- ☐ Improve Housing Stock

Funding Need

(Check all that apply)

- ☐ New program
- ☐ Existing program
- ☐ Public Service
- ☒ Capital Improvement
- ☐ Other (describe) _____

Fifty-word summary description of the project:

This project will consist of construction of new sidewalks and removal and replacement of existing broken and unsafe sidewalks. The proposed new sidewalks will be constructed along Dakota street between Ohio and Vermont, along Vermont between 23rd and Indiana and along West 27th between Red Bud Lane and Naismith Trail. Existing sidewalks in critical condition will be removed and replaced, and gaps in existing sidewalks will be bridged at numerous locations in the low to moderate income area of the city.

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III. Narrative

Please use attachments to answer the following questions in the order presented. Limit your total response to four pages, using standard one-inch margins, single-spacing and 12-point font.

- 1. What is the situation, problem or opportunity this grant will address?**
- 2. How will this grant support the mission of the organization?**

The City of Lawrence, Kansas completed a comprehensive city-wide sidewalk study in 2005 that generated an inventory of the existing network of sidewalk (see attached city-wide sidewalk map) and a priority list of future projects to improve sidewalk connectivity and condition throughout the city. The attached sidewalk map shows the gaps in the existing network of sidewalks along arterial and collector streets. During the study, we also collected data regarding sidewalk condition rating, e.g. Critical, Poor, Fair and Good and are shown in a separate map attached with this application.

The city is pursuing an incremental policy to bridge all existing gaps and also to improve the condition of existing sidewalks through repair and replacement. Sidewalk gaps along arterial and collector streets are typically given priority in the selection of future sidewalk projects. According to Kansas Law and City Policy, it is the responsibility of the property owners to maintain the sidewalks along their property to ensure safety of pedestrians. Enforcement of this statute has been a challenging task for the city, especially in the low income areas where residents do not have the resources to repair and / or replace broken or unsafe sidewalks.

The City of Lawrence is committed to a multi-modal transportation network by providing sidewalks, bike paths and recreational paths throughout the city. The city requires construction of sidewalks along with the construction of all new city streets. In 2008, the city completed two sidewalk projects which has bridged the gaps in the existing sidewalk and has improved connectivity. The city received a CDBG award last year and the construction plans for this project is complete and construction will begin in March of 2009 as soon as the weather becomes favorable. However, the funding requirements to connect all the missing links in the existing sidewalk network are astronomical compared to the limited resources available for these projects. The proposed sidewalk projects, as described below in detail, will take us one step closer in achieving our goal and vision of connectivity throughout the city.

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It is our understanding that Community Development Block Grant Programs are designed to improve the infrastructure and quality of life for residents in the low to moderate income areas. With that in mind, we have selected the following projects.

New Sidewalk along Dakota Street between Ohio and Vermont; along Vermont street between 23rd and Indiana

This project will provide a continuous path to Louisiana and 23rd and will enable residents in this neighborhood to go to Checkers and to the shopping centers on the southwest corner of 23rd and Louisiana. Total length of sidewalk within this stretch is 2,500 lineal feet. Total estimated construction cost is \$87,500.00

New Sidewalk along West 27th street between Red Bud Lane and Naismith Trail

This project will provide access to the Naismith Trail for the residents in this area. This will also provide a continuous path for many residents to Iowa street and thereby will provide access to various facilities in KU campus. Total length of the project is 1,200 lineal feet. Total estimated construction cost is \$42,000.00

Remove and Replace Existing Sidewalk

As mentioned earlier, according to Kansas Law and City Policy, sidewalk maintenance is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. However, many of our residents in low to moderate income areas simply do not have the resources to comply with this requirement. Therefore, as per directions from the City Commission, it is our intention to replace some of the existing sidewalks (approximately 1,000 L.F) that are currently in poor or critical condition. Actual locations will be selected during the design phase of the project. Total estimated construction cost for this work is \$45,000.00

Close Gaps in Existing Sidewalk

It is our goal to bridge the gaps in the existing sidewalk over the long time. We are requesting funds to close gaps totaling approximately 1,000 L.F in various locations in the low to moderate income area. Exact locations will be selected during the design of this project. We strongly believe that closing this gap will improve the use and effectiveness of the existing sidewalk networks. We believe this will be a tremendous benefit to the community. Estimated cost for this work is \$45,000.00

3. How many people will be served by this grant and what percentage are low-moderate income (describe method of verification)?

This project is located in areas of the city where more than 50 percent of the population are in the low to moderate income category. US Census data was used to determine the number of people who would be benefited by this project.

New Sidewalk

Approximately 1,000 people will be served by the proposed sidewalk project along Dakota and Vermont streets. The proposed sidewalk project along West 27th street will serve approximately 750 residents.

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Sidewalk Replacement and Close Gap in existing sidewalk

In addition to serving the respective property owners, this work will also serve the public in general in the neighborhood. It is estimated that a total of approximately 5,000 people will be served by this investment in replacing 1,000 lineal feet of existing unsafe and broken sidewalks and closing the gap totaling 1,000 lineal feet throughout the low to moderate income areas in the City of Lawrence, Kansas.

4. What resources are currently available to dedicate to the project, including staff, volunteers, existing funds and community partners?

Topographic survey for this project will be performed by the city surveyor and other engineering staff. All engineering design and construction plans will also be completed in-house under the direct supervision of the City Engineer. Bid letting and construction management / inspection services will be administered by the Assistant Public Works Director of the City of Lawrence, supported by a group of experienced construction inspectors on staff.

Utilization of city resources for environmental review, topographic survey, engineering design and construction management will maximize the benefits of the CDBG funds requested for this project as this approach will significantly cut down the cost of the project. This approach will also expedite the progression of the project by eliminating the need for advertisement and selection of an engineering consultant.

5. How is this approach to the issue unique or collaborative and what gives it a high likelihood of success?

This project would supplement the ongoing effort by the city to improve connectivity throughout the city. The locations were selected based on a priority ranking of needs throughout the city. In addition to improved connectivity, this project will generate broad based public support and collaboration for safety reasons as well. By eliminating the need for crossing streets with traffic volume will improve safety for people in the area. Replacement of broken and unsafe sidewalks will also improve safety for pedestrians, especially during night and winter months. Like any other community projects, positive public perception and support will be the key to the success of this project.

6. How will success be measured and how will you continue to fund this project once grant funds are expended?

This project will be deemed successful when completed as planned and as budgeted without controversies and conflicts. It is important that this project receive the approval and appreciation of the residents it is intended to serve. The long term success will be measured by the durability and sustainability of the new sidewalk. Although the property owners are responsible for the upkeep of sidewalks, the city staff will continuously monitor the future condition of these sidewalks to determine the need for replacement in the future.

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7. What is the organization's timeline for achieving the objectives of the grant?

April 01, 2009: CDBG Award (tentative date of award)
June 16, 2009: Environmental Review, Engineering Survey, Design and Construction Plans completed.
July 15, 2009: Bid Opening
August 11, 2009: Begin Construction
October 15, 2009: Complete (100%) Construction

8. What other funding sources have been approached and what have the responses been?

The City of Lawrence routinely allocates funding for sidewalk projects in the Capital Improvement budget. However, the resources allocated by the city in this area are dwarfed by the monumental need for funding to bridge the existing gaps and to replace the broken sidewalks. We have not solicited funding from any other sources for this project. However, the City will provide all professional, technical and legal services necessary for this project. As the project budget shows, these services will account for approximately 25% of the project cost.

9. Describe the agency philosophy and practices regarding recycling and other "green" practices.

The City of Lawrence Waste Reduction and Recycling Division creates and supports opportunities for the citizens of Lawrence to reduce waste and recycle in an effective, cost-efficient and sustainable manner. The division operates successfully a yard waste program, fibers recycling for both commercial and residential, and a household hazardous waste program. The division also participates in various outreach and educational programs throughout our community in addition to hosting two city wide events (Earth Day Celebration and the Home Energy Conservation Fair). The City of Lawrence currently recycles cardboard, newspaper, and mixed paper by utilizing drop-off bins in ten locations across the city. In addition, the city offers cardboard and office paper recycling programs for businesses including city buildings.

The City of Lawrence is also committed to a variety of green practices. The Lawrence City Commission has committed to the Sierra Club Cool Cities Program. We are participants in the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement and have purchased green tags to offset ten percent of our energy use in support of renewable, sustainable sources. Other green initiatives the city has committed to include the following: National Plug-In Partners, Green Power Partnership, integrated management systems for utilities operations, and an EPA performance track for utilities. These represent a continuing effort by the city of Lawrence to be stewards of our environment

It is an integral part of the "Green Vision" of the City of Lawrence to provide and promote alternative modes of transportation, e.g. sidewalks, bike paths, recreational paths, car pooling, mass transit, etc. in order to reduce dependence on non-renewable energy sources, reduce green house gas emissions, live in harmony with nature and thereby become a more responsible steward of the environment. This project will be an important step in realizing the "Green Vision" of the city.

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IV. Project Budget

Please attach a one-page budget for the project, showing proposed revenues and expenses.

New Sidewalk (3,700 L.F. @ \$35.00 per L.F.):	\$129,500.00
Remove & Replace Existing Sidewalk (1,000 L.F. @ \$45.00 per L.F.):	\$45,000.00
Close gaps in existing sidewalk (1,000 L.F. @ \$45.00 per L.F.)	\$45,000.00
Total Construction Cost:	\$219,500.00
Engineering Survey and Design:	\$ 35,000.00
Construction Management / Inspection:	\$ 26,000.00
Legal Services:	\$ 12,000.00
Total Project Cost:	\$292,500.00
CDBG Funds Requested:	\$219,500.00
City's Match / Contribution:	\$73,000.00

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IV. Required Attachments

1. City department approval, if project will require work with or by other City departments
2. List of officers and board members and their principal occupations (neighborhoods included)
3. Most recent annual report and financial statement
4. Project Budget

Submit 1 paper copy, 3-hole punched, and one electronic copy (all application materials should be combined into one file) of your proposal by 5:00 p.m. December 1, 2008:

**Community Development Division, Development Services
1 Riverfront Plaza, Suite 110
Lawrence, KS 66044**