

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
Division of Grants and Special Programs

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
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Horse Capital of the World



LEXINGTON

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION MATCH PROGRAM

(NAMP)

*PROGRAM GUIDELINES & APPLICATION
INSTRUCTIONS*

July 2023

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INTRODUCTION

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG) established the Neighborhood Action Match Program (NAMP) in 1985 to support eligible neighborhood associations in carrying out identified neighborhood development activities using the cooperative efforts and voluntary contributions of neighborhood individuals, businesses, schools and other organizations. This document:

- (1) notifies the public of the availability of funds;
- (2) identifies program objectives;
- (3) defines eligible applicants;
- (4) sets forth eligible/ineligible neighborhood action activities;
- (5) sets forth requirements for applications for funds, including match requirements;
- (6) identifies selection criteria for award of funds;
- (7) describes the method of allocation and distribution of funds; and
- (8) specifies reporting requirements.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG) is making funds available for the Neighborhood Action Match Program (NAMP). The funds are to be matched by contributions raised by neighborhood associations and donations from individuals, businesses, and other organizations over a one-year grant period. The maximum amount of NAMP funds available is \$10,000 per Neighborhood Association.

The FY2 application will be posted on the web site and sent to the list of neighborhood associations maintained by LFUCG. Organizations not on that list may contact Donna Lewis at dlewis@lexingtonky.gov. Award announcements are expected by September 30, 2023.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Neighborhood Action Match Program (NAMP) applications must be received by the deadline of 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 14, 2022 through Neighborly Software Portal. No paper copy, e-mails or faxes accepted. **Late applications will not be considered for funding.**

For questions or additional information about the Neighborhood Action Match Program, please contact Celia Moore at (859) 258-3072 or cmoore@lexingtonky.gov. The completed application and all supporting material must be submitted through Neighborly Software. If you need assistance please contact **Celia Moore, Grants Manager at cmoore@lexingtonky.gov.**

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| INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS MAY BE EXCLUDED FROM FUNDING CONSIDERATION. |
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PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The program has the following objectives:

- To be a catalyst for neighborhood associations to establish neighborhood linkages to support their programs.
- To provide neighborhood associations with the opportunities to directly affect the quality of life in their neighborhoods.
- To provide inexperienced neighborhood associations with opportunities to gain experience in organizing and managing projects.
- To expand the ability of neighborhood associations to secure and manage the resources necessary to directly impact development in their neighborhoods.

The Neighborhood Action Match Program incentivizes neighborhood associations to select and plan neighborhood development activities, to secure and organize the resources necessary to carry out the activities and to manage the implementation of those activities.

Program funds are paid by reimbursement only. Funds must be expended by the neighborhood association in an amount equal to or greater than the amount of grant funding being requested PRIOR to submitting a request for reimbursement to the LFUCG Division of Grants and Special Programs. No funds will be advanced.

See page 5 for additional information about match requirements.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

An eligible applicant for the Neighborhood Action Match Program must be a neighborhood association that:

- is established and in operation as a private voluntary, non-profit corporation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky at the time of application and;
- has a complete slate of elected officers and a governing body whose membership is at least 60% neighborhood residents.

Documentation of the above is a requirement of the application.

Neighborhood associations which have not made substantial progress on previously approved projects will not be considered for additional funding. In addition, Neighborhood associations must be the implementing agency and not a conduit for other organizations to obtain funds.

ELIGIBLE PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Eligible neighborhood associations may use funds to design or carry out the following activities:

- Activities of a physical improvement nature for public or community property. Eligible activities include such projects as the planting of street trees (includes public right of way area between sidewalk and street, but **not in private yards**), sidewalk repair (**excluding sidewalks adjacent to business or personal property**), public park land improvements, installation of playground equipment, or other neighborhood-wide improvement projects. The improvements must be open and available to the public and benefit the whole neighborhood.
- Activities necessary to plan, promote, or finance voluntary general clean up and neighborhood improvement efforts such as ongoing street and alley cleanup programs, removing abandoned cars, and demolishing abandoned buildings.
- Activities necessary to plan and promote re-use of vacant buildings in the neighborhood.
- Activities designed to facilitate the establishment or expansion of businesses within the neighborhood, other than those activities noted below as ineligible.
- Activities to enhance the beauty of neighborhood streets by removing dead or diseased trees and the implementation of a regular pruning regimen as long as pruning activities do not exceed once every 3 years.

INELIGIBLE PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The following activities are not eligible for support through the Neighborhood Action Match Program and expenditures on these activities cannot count toward meeting match requirements.

- Administering or managing the NAMP project. For example, this means any task that oversees the implementation of the project or that corresponds to grant reporting and requests for reimbursement from the NAMP grant.
- Purchase of food or other consumables.
- Program operation activities, such as day care, employment services, recreation programs, and other such programs.
- Routine maintenance activities such as watering plants or pulling out weeds.
- Planting of trees **in private yards**.
- Sidewalk repair **adjacent to business or personal property**.

- Activities proposing the use of labor and materials provided by employees of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, Fayette County Public Schools, University of Kentucky, BCTC, or any public utilities.
- Construction, capital, or operations financing of businesses in the neighborhood or of businesses wishing to establish within the neighborhood.
- Activities involving compensation to residents of the neighborhood or to individuals doing business in the neighborhood for any work associated with this program or with other neighborhood development activities, unless such work is secured through a competitive bidding process.
- Acquisition of small portable or movable equipment/appliances/tools as opposed to permanent fixtures on community or public property. For example, purchase of flowers and mulch are allowable expenses while gardening tools, recycling bins, saws, lawnmowers, etc. are NOT eligible expenses.
- Operational expenses of the neighborhood association not directly and exclusively related to the implementation of activities approved in a grant award under this program, except for a one-time grant, not to exceed \$1,000, for initial operating expenses of newly formed neighborhood associations.
- Plans/studies/feasibility reports.

MATCH AND IN-KIND DONATION REQUIREMENTS

In-kind services and donated materials must be directly related to project activities and performed or donated during the grant’s contract period. Documentation from the donors, such as donation letters, written estimates, etc., is required and must document the value of in-kind supplies and materials. The fair market value may be used to value specialty or professional services (plumber, electrician, architect, engineer, attorney, etc.). If the services are manual labor in nature, (general clean-up, planting shrubs, mowing, etc.), the value given to the labor shall be the same as the *federal minimum wage* in effect at the time contracts are authorized by the Urban County Council.

For example, a project that requires the use of an architect who donates time should provide a letter from the architect documenting the value using generally accepted market rates for that profession. However, projects using general volunteers who complete activities that do not require a specific skill set must document that time with volunteer sign-in sheets and attribute the minimum wage to each hour worked.

Examples of match:

- Cash
- Donated Supplies
- Volunteer Labor and Services

Ineligible Sources of Match:

- Funding from other LFUCG sources such as the Neighborhood Development Fund

- Federal funding
- Labor provided by the LFUCG, school, or public utility
- Ineligible project activities (as mentioned above)

The total match provided by the neighborhood must equal 100% or more of the LFUCG share unless located in an eligible census tract.

Neighborhood Associations that are located in eligible census tracts may apply for a reduced match commitment. Match must be at least 10% of the total project cost.

Eligible census tracts are listed below. To determine if your neighborhood association is in an eligible census tract, go to <https://geomap.ffiec.gov/FFIECGeocMap/GeocodeMap1.aspx> and type in the address. Compare the **Tract Code** on the chart that is populated with the list below.

**Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
Low- and Moderate-Income Census Tract Codes
2010 Census Data**

| | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 0001.01 | 0008.02 | 0016.00 | 0034.02 | 0039.11 |
| 0001.02 | 0009.00 | 0018.00 | 0034.04 | 0040.01 |
| 0002.00 | 0010.00 | 0019.00 | 0035.03 | 0041.04 |
| 0003.00 | 0011.00 | 0020.01 | 0035.04 | |
| 0004.00 | 0013.00 | 0026.00 | 0038.04 | |
| 0007.00 | 0014.00 | 0031.01 | 0039.09 | |
| 0008.01 | 0015.00 | 0032.02 | 0039.10 | |

If an organization is not located in an eligible census tract, it must provide match that is equal to the amount of NAMP grant funding. Match funding *may* be non-cash items such as volunteer labor or donated supplies.

Match examples are below:

Example #1: *Happy Neighborhood Association has requested and been approved for \$5,000 from NAMP to replace street trees in their neighborhood. The total project cost is \$10,000. ABC Tree Repair has provided a cost estimate of \$10,000 for the purchase and planting of trees. Once the trees are planted, Happy Neighborhood Association will pay ABC Tree Repair the full amount of \$10,000. Happy Neighborhood Association will then submit a request for payment to the LFUCG, attaching a copy of the \$10,000 invoice from ABC Tree Repair and a cancelled check showing that the invoice has been paid. Once the Grants Manager has reviewed the documentation and found it acceptable, the association will receive a reimbursement of \$5,000 from LFUCG. **In this example, the neighborhood association is providing a full cash match for the project.***

Example #2: *Happy Neighborhood Association has requested and been approved for \$2,000 from NAMP to replace the landscaping at the neighborhood’s front entrance. ABC Landscaping has provided a quotation for flowers and shrubs in the amount of \$2,000. Happy Neighborhood*

Association pays ABC Landscaping for the flowers and shrubs and neighborhood residents volunteer their own labor to plant flowers and shrubs. Happy Neighborhood Association will then submit a request for payment to the LFUCG, attaching a copy of the \$2,000 invoice from ABC Landscaping and a cancelled check showing that the invoice has been paid, along with documentation of all volunteer time (value of at least \$2,000). Once the Grants Manager has reviewed the documentation and found it acceptable, the association will receive a reimbursement of \$2,000 from the LFUCG. **In this example, the neighborhood association is providing volunteer labor as its match.**

Example #3: Happy Neighborhood Association (HNA) is located in an eligible census tract and has requested and been approved for \$5,000 from NAMP to replace the fence along a public area. The minimum match requirement is 10% or \$500. Mr. Fence-It has provided an invoice for installation of the fence in the amount of \$5,000. HNA also received a donation of paint worth \$250. Additionally, the residents volunteered and painted the fence. HNA pays the invoice to Mr. Fence-It, obtains a letter from the entity that donated the paint documenting the value of the paint, and gets a copy of the log of the volunteers who painted showing a value of \$250. Then Happy Neighborhood Association submits a request for payment to the LFUCG, attaching a copy of the \$5,000 invoice from Mr. Fence-It, a cancelled check showing that the invoice has been paid, documentation of the donated paint (worth least \$500), and the volunteer log. Once the Grants Manager has reviewed the documentation and found it acceptable, the association will receive a reimbursement of \$5,000 from the LFUCG. **In this example, the neighborhood association is providing donated materials as its match.**

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR AWARD OF FUNDS

A review board appointed by the Mayor will evaluate applications for each funding cycle. The review board will be composed of the Division of Grants and Special Programs Director, two citizens, one member of the Urban County Council, and a representative from the Mayor's Office. Applications and the activities proposed will be evaluated and recommendations for grant awards made to the Mayor and Urban County Council on consideration of the following factors:

1. Neighborhood/Organizational Factors

- Neighborhood association's record of effectively managing activities of a similar, or near similar, nature and/or level of complexity.
- Evidence of association's financial accountability.
- Evidence of the working relationship of the association with residents of the neighborhood.

2. Activity Factors

- Extent to which match sources, especially any funding match sources, have been realistically identified and committed. There must be at least \$1 of in-kind or cash match for each \$1 Neighborhood Action Match Program grant funds (unless located in an eligible census tract).

- Extent to which the activity provides long term benefit(s).
- Probable effectiveness of the activity in achieving objectives of the program.
- Quality of the management plan and budget.
- Feasibility of the activity proposed given the nature of the problem addressed by the activity and the resources available.

3. Combining other LFUCG funding with the NAMP Program

- NAMP funding cannot be combined with any other LFUCG source of funding for the same project.

4. Priority Applications

- Applicants that have not received a NAMP award in the past 3 years will have a higher priority.

Any application that proposes ineligible activities will not be selected for funding. **Be advised, an application does not guarantee an award recommendation or the full amount of funding requested.**

ALLOCATION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUNDS

The maximum amount of Neighborhood Action Match Program funds granted to any neighborhood association is \$10,000.

All applications chosen for an award must be approved by Council. Expenses cannot be reimbursed if incurred PRIOR to the award of the grant by the Urban County Council and execution of a contract signed by both the Mayor and the neighborhood association representative. All invoices must be dated after the date of the executed contract.

AMENDMENTS

Any change in scope of work or extension to the contract must be approved by the Urban County Council. A request for change in scope or an extension to the contract must be requested in writing to the Division of Grants and Special Programs. Extensions may be permitted on a case-by-case basis. Please note that contract modifications take approximately 30 days to finalize.

REQUESTING A REIMBURSEMENT

The grant award shall require a contract between the Urban County Government and the neighborhood association through which each party accepts certain obligations to the other regarding the disbursement and use of funds.

LFUCG will not disburse funds for expenses incurred by the neighborhood association prior to the execution of a contract signed by both the mayor and an authorized representative of the neighborhood association, as awarded by the Urban County Council.

Grant awards are not disbursed up front, but on a reimbursement basis.

The treasurer of the neighborhood association or the authorized official identified in the application will submit a Reimbursement Request to the Division of Grants and Special Programs of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government. Email submissions are preferred. Please submit the following to Celia Moore at cmoore@lexingtonky.gov:

The Reimbursement Request must include:

- cover letter or email reporting the activity progress,
- full color pictures (electronic preferred),
- the reimbursement amount requested (ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST DOLLAR),
- attached expenditure and match forms,
- attached invoices/receipts
- attached documentation of payment of invoice *which includes a cancelled check*, and
- documentation of match such as volunteer sign-in sheet or letters documenting donations.

Each request for payment must show that the Neighborhood Association has expended cash equal to or more than the amount of reimbursement requested. Additionally, the match requirement must also be met. For every \$1 requested in NAMF funding, an additional \$1 of match must be documented, unless located in an eligible census tract. If located in an eligible census tract, associations must document at least 10% of the grant award in match.

The Division of Grants and Special Programs will review each Reimbursement Request and forward to the Division of Accounting for payment. All payments shall be issued directly to the designated neighborhood association representative. LFUCG will not make any payments to suppliers or contractors.

Should the Division of Grants and Special Programs determine that project progress and/or the project management of the neighborhood association do not satisfy the terms of the grant award, the Grants Manager shall contact the Neighborhood Association's representative for the information necessary prior to approving the reimbursement request. The Division may also notify the Mayor's Office and appropriate district Council person and arrange a meeting with the Neighborhood Association to seek to resolve the problems and/or issues identified which prevent approval of the Request for Reimbursement.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The neighborhood association must submit a Project Completion Report with the submission of the final request for payment. The report shall:

- (1) describe the projects and the benefits derived from its implementation;
- (2) include (electronic) full color photographs of the completed project;

The Project Completion Report shall be submitted via email to Celia Moore at cmoore@lexingtonky.gov. If email is not an option, reports may be mailed to the following address:

**LFUCG DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS
ATTN: CELIA MOORE, GRANTS MANAGER
200 EAST MAIN STREET, 6TH FLOOR
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40507**

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE BE SURE TO CAREFULLY READ AND FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING AN APPLICATION.

The application instructions may be obtained from the Division of Grants and Special Programs or downloaded from the government web site:

<https://www.lexingtonky.gov/neighborhood-action-match-program-namp>.

The application format provided must be used. Neighborhood associations must submit the completed Neighborly Software within the time prescribed. **Do not submit applications by paper, e-mail or fax.** Late applications will not be considered for funding.

Each application must contain the following:

1. **Application Information:** Include the legal name of agency requesting funding and mailing address
2. **Contacts:**
 - a. Name and Title
 - b. Address (include the zip code)
 - c. Phone Number
 - d. E-mail Address

Agency's Authorized signature and Second Contact Person Name and Title:

- a. Address
 - b. Phone Number
 - c. E-mail Address
3. **Amount of Funds Needed for Project:** These amounts must be the same as Item 9 totals on page 4 of the application. - ROUND TO THE NEAREST DOLLAR.
 - a. **LFUCG NAMP Grant** – The amount you are requesting from the LFUCG NAMP Grant cannot exceed \$10,000.
 - b. **Neighborhood Funds** - Match from cash, in-kind service, or donated materials – must be a 1:1 match (unless located in an eligible census tract).
 - c. **Total** – Add the grant request and the match together.
 4. **Projected Starting Date and Expected Date of completion:** Remember that Urban County Council must approve applications and a contract must be signed by the Neighborhood Association and the Mayor before any work can begin.
 5. **Project Title:** please provide a descriptive title for the project.
 6. **Signature authorizing submission of the application:** must be signed by a person with authority to execute application on behalf of the association. Also, the application must be submitted with an original signature (not copied or stamped).
 7. **Project Narrative:** A proposal narrative statement defining what neighborhood activities are proposed for funding,

- 8. Project Budget:** These amounts must be the same as Item 3 totals on the first page of the application. ROUND TO THE NEAREST DOLLAR.

This information must include the listing of all sources of funds, materials or labor, as well as a listing of all uses of the same by specific project element.

The Cash Match is the actual dollars provided by the neighborhood association. **Funding from other government sources may not be used as cash match share.**

In-kind services and donated materials match - Include specific information on the value of in-kind services and/or in-kind supplies and materials. In-kind services and donated materials must be directly related to project activities and performed or donated over the contract duration.

Documentation from the donors, such as donation letters, written estimates, etc., must be provided on the value of in-kind supplies and materials.

With regard to in-kind services, if the services are those of a specialty nature (plumber, electrician, etc.) or professional (architect, engineer, attorney, etc.), the market value may be used. If the services are manual labor in nature, (general clean-up, planting shrubs, mowing, etc.), the value given to the labor shall be the same as the federal minimum wage in effect at the time contracts are authorized by the Urban County Council.

Written estimates from the vendors must be attached for all goods and services to be purchased for this project.

The project budget cannot include expenses incurred prior to the award of the grant by the Urban County Council. The Neighborhood Action Match Program will not reimburse these expenses. All requests for funds should be rounded to the nearest dollar.

The total match provided by the neighborhood must equal 100% or more of the LFUCG share.

- 9. Budget Narrative:** Describe work to be completed including the amounts of each activity and the vendors expected. List the sources of cash match. Specify the nature and hours of labor for in-kind service match. List types and values of donated materials.
- 10. Project Management Plan:** Describe the process and schedule for implementation of the activity.

The neighborhood association is responsible for selection, management and payment of all contractors and suppliers. **The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government does not recommend nor endorse contractors and suppliers of goods and services.**

The neighborhood association must secure all necessary permits, authorizations, inspections and approvals for work and services.

NOTE: If a proposed project is within parks and public lands, the applicant must contact Chris Cooperrider at the LFUCG Division of Parks and Recreation at ccooperrider@lexingtonky.gov or (859) 288-2937 for project approval. Submit documentation of consultation with the NAMP application.

- 11. Neighborhood Participation:** Provide a description of how the applicant involved the neighborhood residents in the decision making process in choosing what activities funding should be requested for.

For example, list the meetings held, who was invited and who attended. Additionally, discuss the process that the Neighborhood Association will use to communicate with residents should a grant be awarded. Attach meeting minutes regarding decision on activity for NAMP funding.

- 12. Financial Accountability:** Please indicate prior receipt of Neighborhood Action Match Program funds, the year(s), amount(s), and outstanding balance. If a new applicant, please indicate any other applicable grant funding experience.
- 13. Project Experience:** Identify any prior or current neighborhood projects undertaken by the neighborhood association. Please indicate status of any prior Neighborhood Action Match projects, i.e., whether complete or still underway.
- 14. Program Objectives:** Provide a brief description of how the planned activity will meet one or more of the Neighborhood Action Match Program Objectives.
- 15. Maintenance Plan:** Describe your plan for providing routine maintenance such as watering plants, pulling weeds, etc. Keep in mind that this grant does not pay for these activities and does not consider these activities as eligible match for the grant.
- 16. Names and Addresses of Board Members:** Use the space below to list the names and addresses of all current association elected officials and members of the governing body.

See list of attachments on the following page.

| Required Attachments | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Attachment 1: | Map showing location of the neighborhood association and “Before” Color Photos |
| Attachment 2: | Written estimates from the vendors for all goods and services to be purchased for this project |
| Attachment 3: | Letters documenting sources of match |
| Attachment 4: | Neighborhood Association Status Report from KY Secretary of State showing the association is active and in good standing* |
| Attachment 5: | Neighborhood Association’s Annual Report filed with KY Secretary of State* |
| Attachment 6: | Meeting minutes regarding decision on applying for NAMP funding |
| Attachment 7: | Association’s most recent checking account statement |

* These two documents may be printed from the Kentucky Secretary of State web site: <http://www.sos.ky.gov>.

- Click on “Search Businesses” located in the bottom left under “Online Business Services.”
- Click in the yellow box and type in the organization name. Click on “continue.”
- If a list of names appears, click on your association name. Otherwise, it should take you directly to your organization page.
- Print that page showing the date of the last annual report and the list of the current officers.
- Under “Images Available Online,” click on the most recent “Annual Report” and print the report.
- Include both documents with the submission of the application.