



MICHIGAN CITY

NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT

PROGRAM GUIDE

*Empowering residents. Strengthening neighborhoods.
Creating a more vibrant Michigan City.*

PROGRAM GUIDE



VIBRANT
MICHIGAN CITY

Economic Development Corporation of Michigan City
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Michigan City Neighborhood Grant Program

Programming Purpose

Michigan City Neighborhood Grant provides funding for resident-led projects that improve neighborhood appearance, foster resident engagement, and strengthen community pride. Projects should be visible, sustainable, and community driven.

Eligible Beautification Projects

- Landscaping
- Tree planting
- Community gardens/Flower gardens
- Entryway improvements
- Beautification signage
- Public art & murals
- Community gathering spaces

Neighborhood Enhancement

- Neighborhood clean-up events
- Graffiti removal
- Vacant lot improvements
- Community beautification days
- Seasonal decorations
- Public safety projects

Community Engagement

- Neighborhood festivals
- Block parties
- Community art projects
- Youth engagement activities
- Community pride campaigns

Eligible project concepts are consistent with previously established neighborhood vibrancy grant criteria.

Funding Structure

Category	Amount
Minimum Award	\$500
Maximum Award	\$5,000
Required Match	25% Cash or In-Kind
Project Completion	6 Months
Volunteer Requirement	Minimum 5 Residents

Michigan City Neighborhood Grant Program Scoring Rubric- 100 Points Total

Category	Points
Community Need	20
Community Engagement	20
Project Readiness	15
Beautification Impact	15
Sustainability	15
Leadership Capacity	10
Budget & Leveraging Resources	5
TOTAL	100

Community Need (20 Points)

- Clearly identifies neighborhood challenge
- Demonstrates community support
- Addresses visible improvement opportunity

Community Engagement (20 Points)

- Resident participation plan
- Volunteer commitments
- Partnerships identified

Project Readiness (15 Points)

- Realistic timeline
- Defined leadership team
- Necessary approvals obtained

Beautification Impact (15 Points)

- Highly visible project
- Enhances neighborhood image
- Improves public spaces

Sustainability (15 Points)

- Maintenance plan included
- Long-term benefit
- Ongoing stewardship identified

Leadership Capacity (10 Points)

- Neighborhood association involvement
- Ambassador participation
- Volunteer management capacity

Budget & Leverage (5 Points)

- Reasonable costs
- Match contribution provided
- Efficient use of funds

Michigan City Neighborhood Project Planning

Draft Action Plan

Phase 1: Organize

- Identify neighborhood residents
- Recruit Ambassadors
- Conduct neighborhood assessment
- Hold resident meetings

Phase 2: Plan

- Identify priority projects
- Develop project plans
- Apply for beautification grants
- Secure partnerships

Phase 3: Activate

- Conduct clean-up days
- Install beautification improvements
- Organizing community events
- Engage youth volunteers

Phase 4: Sustain

- Maintain improvements
- Evaluating impact
- Celebrating successes
- Recruit future residents