

**SUBMISSION NAME**

City of Diamondhead, Mississippi

**ID**

556461

**LOGO****CREATED DATE**

04/14/2021 5:01 PM EDT

**LAST UPDATED**

04/14/2021 6:15 PM EDT

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**SUBMISSION FORM**

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## 2021 AARP Community Challenge Application

*Grants to make communities livable for people of all ages*

**\*\*Eligible applications must be submitted through this online application by April 14, 2021, 8:00 p.m. ET\*\***

**NOTE: All fields must be filled out completely in order for the application to be accepted. Use "n/a" for "not applicable" where appropriate.**

Please click to download a PDF version of this application for reference.

[Contact for questions.](#)

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## BASIC INFORMATION

**1. Name of Applicant Organization:\***

NAME OF APPLICANT ORGANIZATION:

City of Diamondhead, Mississippi

**2. Amount of this grant request:\***

52,000

**NOTE:** AARP reserves the right to award less funds than requested, so applicants should be prepared to discuss how they would scale down their proposals **if asked**.

**3. Organization Profile.**

How has this organization been involved in work to make this community more livable? Please briefly describe in 1,500 characters or less (including spaces) and include the issues that the organization has worked on.\*

The mayor and city council are responsible for the operations of the city and this includes providing greenspace and recreation opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy. The city is in the final stages of updating our comprehensive plan ("Envision Diamondhead 2040"). This plan focuses much attention on livability and mobility including parks and greenspace. Residents have requested that the city add a dog park in our community. This is a big amenity that is currently missing. A group of residents have created a steering committee to recommend this project to the city council. This committee is also actively soliciting donations from residents to help build the park. The city council is working to secure grant funding to also fund part of the construction cost.

#### **4. Organization Address:**

ADDRESS:

5000 Diamondhead Circle

CITY:

Diamondhead

STATE: \*

Mississippi

ZIP:

39525

#### **5. Organization tax status.**

Please check the one that best applies:\*

a municipality

#### **6. Organization Website:**

(IF NONE, ENTER N/A)

www.diamondhead.ms.gov

#### **7. Organization Twitter Handle:**

(IF NONE, ENTER N/A)

n/a

#### **8. Organization Facebook Name:**

(IF NONE, ENTER N/A)

City of Diamondhead

#### **9. Did your organization apply for an AARP Community Challenge grant in 2017, 2018, 2019 or 2020?\***

No- did not apply

#### **10. How did you hear about this grant opportunity?\***

Word of mouth in the community

**\*\*If the application does not advance when you click next, you likely did not complete all required questions or went over a text limit. Scroll to the top of the page to see if there is an error message.\*\***

## POINT OF CONTACT

### 11. Organization Contact:

FIRST NAME:

Michael

LAST NAME:

Reso

TITLE:

City Manager

PHONE:

+1 (228) 222-4626

EMAIL:

mreso@diamondhead.ms.gov

***\*\*If the application does not advance when you click next, you likely did not complete all required questions or went over a text limit. Scroll to the top of the page to see if there is an error message.\*\****

## COMMUNITY DETAILS

### 12. Name of municipality where project will be physically located/delivered:\*

Diamondhead, MS

### 13. Approximate address where this project will be delivered:\*

**NOTE:** This information is for AARP's analysis purposes only and will not be used in award information, etc.

ADDRESS:

Twin Lakes on Diamondhead Drive West

CITY:

Diamondhead

STATE: \*

Mississippi

ZIP CODE:

39525

### 14. Approximate population for the city/town/area where this project will be delivered:\*

**NOTE:** Please do not enter population ranges. We recommend a quick Internet search of the municipality and population.

9000

### 15. Would you describe this community as:\*

**\*\*If the application does not advance when you click next, you likely did not complete all required questions or went over a text limit. Scroll to the top of the page to see if there is an error message.\*\***

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## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### 16. Project Description.

Please provide a description of your project in 2,000 characters or less (including spaces).\*

The City of Diamondhead will create a new park on the east side of the waterfront at Twin Lakes in Diamondhead, MS. There will be off street parking (including ADA accessibility and golf cart parking). There will be a pier for fishing, bird watching and relaxing. This will connect to an 8 foot wide walking path along the water and through the woods to allow residents to enjoy the outdoors. In addition, the plans include ADA bathrooms and a storage area with covering for protection from the weather. There will also be dog fences area for small and large dogs to play.

All residents, tourist, and visitors to Diamondhead will enjoy this area. The park area is designed to accommodate the residents of Woodland Village Nursing Home in Diamondhead. There is complete ADA accessibility in the park. This will provide resident of Woodland Village an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful nature, fish, watch birds and have access to the ADA trails.

The project will connect to the proposed greenway project that would span from the Hancock Harrison County Lines traveling west to the Rotten Bayou Kayak Launch. The park would be the midway point through this new multimodal lane.

The City owns this 2 acres site for this park.

The city is requesting for this grant to fund part of the cost of this new dog park and open greenspace. The city is actively seeking other grant funds that will fund other parts (such as the walking trail or fishing pier). This grant request is for \$52,000 to help fund the dual water fountains, fencing, and splash pad for the dogs. The remaining cost will be funded by other sources including grants, city general funds and private donations.

**NOTE: This grant may NOT be used for the following activities:**

- Partisan, political or election-related activities
- Planning activities and assessments and surveys of communities without tangible engagement
- Studies with no follow-up action
- Publication of books or reports
- The acquisition of land and/or buildings or a vehicle purchase
- Solely to sponsor other organizations' events or activities
- Research and development for a nonprofit endeavor
- Research and development for a for-profit endeavor
- The promotion of a for-profit entity and/or its products and services

### 17. Project Short Summary.

In under 250 characters (including spaces), please describe your project and the impact it will have on the community. Think of as a one or two sentence summary you would include in a press release.\*

**For example:** This project will turn overgrown vacant lots into community gardens, and install artistic benches and murals at a park frequented by older adults and children.

The City of Diamondhead is creating a new park that will include two fenced dog play areas as well as a fishing pier, bird watching area, and nature trail. It will also be completed ADA accessible so everyone can enjoy this outdoor amenity.

**OPTIONAL: UPLOAD ONE ATTACHMENT IF NEEDED. (THIS IS NOT NECESSARY, BUT YOU MAY SHARE ONE DOCUMENT, I.E., DESIGNS, MAP, PHOTO, SUPPORTING MATERIALS. COMBINE MULTIPLE ITEMS INTO ONE DOC.)**

## **18. Social Impact Goal.**

Which of the following social impact goals **BEST** describes your project?\*

**NOTE:** Even if several apply, please select only the one that **BEST** describes your project.

improving the health and wellness of the community

## **19. Project Category.**

Please select the category below that best describes your project, along with the primary corresponding sub-category.\*

**NOTE:** We understand there is some crossover between categories and that several might apply to your project. Please select the main category that closest aligns with your initial goal.

Public places

### **Please select a Public Places Sub-Category\***

D.

## **20. Project Deliverables.**

Please specify the individual deliverables of your project. Quantify and provide as much detail as you can about any physical structures (such as benches, lighting, signage, etc.), events, dates, addresses, communications, people reached, volunteers involved, etc. *within 300 characters (including spaces) for each deliverable.*

**For example:**

- I. The Organization will purchase and install structures with LED lighting with custom side panels at (ADDRESS)
  - Quantity: 3
- II. The Organization will purchase and install ADA compliant benches at (ADDRESS)
  - Quantity: 7
- III. The Organization will purchase and install AARP branded signage at (ADDRESS)
  - Quantity: 15
- IV. The Organization will purchase and install raised garden beds
  - Quantity: 10
- V. The Organization will hold event on (DATE) (event examples: workshops, hackathon, trainings)
  - Quantity: 1
- VI. The Organization will train community members at workshops
  - Quantity: 250 goal
- VII. The Organization will hold a (kick-off, ribbon cutting, etc.) event on November 1, 2021
  - Quantity: 1
- VIII. The Organization has a goal of attendees at event
  - Quantity: 400
- IX. The Organization will engage volunteers over the course of the project – including painting benches, installation, and the kick-off event
  - Quantity: goal of 70

### **DELIVERABLE 1: (UNDER 300 CHARACTERS (INCLUDING SPACES))**

This grant will fund part of the dog play area by providing 830 LF of 5 ft tall fencing. (cost = \$13,529)

QUANTITY:

2

DELIVERABLE 2: (UNDER 300 CHARACTERS (INCLUDING SPACES))

Part of the dog play area will include a splash pad. (Cost = \$33,600)

QUANTITY:

1

DELIVERABLE 3: (UNDER 300 CHARACTERS (INCLUDING SPACES))

The dog play area will include dual water fountains. (Cost = \$5,000)

QUANTITY:

2

DELIVERABLE 4: (UNDER 300 CHARACTERS (INCLUDING SPACES))

QUANTITY:

DELIVERABLE 5: (UNDER 300 CHARACTERS (INCLUDING SPACES))

QUANTITY:

**How many more deliverables would you like to add?**

0

## 21. Project Type\*

**NOTE:** Proposals for the project types described below will be prioritized over those that support ongoing programming or events.

Permanent physical fixtures in the community

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# PROJECT NARRATIVE AND BUDGET

## 22. Livable Communities Activities.

Please provide a brief summary of the ongoing efforts to make this community more livable for all ages and share how the Community Challenge project will support that effort and have a lasting impact.\*

***Please complete section with 2,000 characters or fewer (including spaces).***

The City of Diamondhead is currently updating our comprehensive plan called "Envision Diamondhead 2040". We hired Orion Planning and Design to lead the community through this year long process. We are in the final stages and almost complete. A big part of this project highlights sense of place, livability, mobility, and the outdoors. This includes adding new amenities such as a dog park and more neighborhood greenspace throughout the city. The city has invested in 2 new kayak launches to provide free access to the Rotten Bayou Blueway. The city has also created a master plan for a new Town Center District and will begin construction on a \$4.2 million infrastructure project to develop this mixed use commercial area where residents will be able to live, work and play in this one area of the city. The city is also developing a parks, greenspace and recreation master plan that will include adding protected multimodal lanes, nature trails, and greenways throughout the city. This plan will also focus on adding more recreation opportunities such as a complete city park with athletic fields and indoor recreation facility. All of this will improve the quality of life for our residents.

## **23. Community engagement.**

Please describe how residents and local organizations have been engaged in the area's livable communities' activities to date. How will you engage the community and involve older adults as you execute this grant?\*

***Please complete section with 2,000 characters or fewer (including spaces).***

The mayor and city council asked resident to join a steering committee to help plan and design this new dog park. Over a dozen residents responded to this request and have been meeting every Thursday since January to work on this project.

In addition, over 3,000 resident have been engaged over the last year for the comprehensive planning process. The city used Facebook, email blast and direct mail to generate interest from the residents and they responded greatly! The city has now formed a new steering committee of residents to begin planning a skate park and pump track after residents requested this for our community. Residents are the driving force behind most of the parks, greenspace and open space projects.

The steering committee is also beginning a campaign to solicit donations from residents to help fund the park.

## **24. Role of volunteers.**

Will volunteers play a role in the implementation of the Community Challenge project?\*

Yes

**Do you anticipate volunteers age 50 and older playing a role in the implementation of the Community Challenge project?\***

Yes

**Please describe the role that volunteers (particularly those 50+) will play in implementing the Community Challenge project.\***

***Please complete section with 2,000 characters or fewer (including spaces).***

Many of the residents that are participating in the steering committee for the dog park are over age 50. They are retired and want to see the city add this new park for residents and visitors to enjoy. A big focus for this committee is to make sure the entire park is ADA accessible so the residents of Woodland Village Nursing Home can come to the park. They want these residents to have an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful nature, fish, watch birds and have access to the ADA trails.

The city is also hosting our first dog park day event on May 2. This is completely organized by the steering committee to begin soliciting donations from residents to help fund the park. The city is actively seeking various grant funding opportunities, such as this one.

## **25. Diversity and Inclusion.**

Regardless of your project category, will your project focus on, impact or benefit a specific multicultural population in the community?\*

Yes

**If so, please select the one or two who will be primarily impacted below.\***

Native American Hispanic/Latino LGBTQ+ African American/Black Asian American Pacific Islander

**Please describe how the effort focuses on or impacts this multicultural or diverse population(s).\***

***Please complete section with 2,000 characters or fewer (including spaces).***

All residents of the City of Diamondhead will have access to this new park and dog play area. It will be free and open to the public. By having a place for dogs to play, this will allow residents to gather as a community to build new friendships. Everyone is welcome in this public greenspace.

## **26. Disparities.**

Will your project improve or address existing disparities (including racial or economic) in the community?\*

Yes

**PLEASE DESCRIBE: PLEASE COMPLETE SECTION WITH 2,000 CHARACTERS OR FEWER (INCLUDING SPACES).**

The community park is open to all residents and provides equal opportunity for everyone to enjoy this free space.

## **27. Accessibility.**

Will your project focus on improving accessibility for people of all abilities?\*

Yes

**PLEASE DESCRIBE: PLEASE COMPLETE SECTION WITH 2,000 CHARACTERS OR FEWER (INCLUDING SPACES).**

The park is designed to provide complete ADA access. This includes parking, the trails, bathrooms, fishing pier, etc. The goal is to provide a space that is inviting and welcoming to the residents of Woodland Village Nursing Home.

## **28. Matching Funds and In-Kind Support.**

Matching funds are not required. However, please detail any matching funds or in-kind support the organization will receive to contribute toward this project.

*Please complete each section with 1,500 characters or fewer (including spaces).*

### **Nonprofit**

**MATCHING FUNDS (\$)**

**IN-KIND SUPPORT**

### **Private**

**MATCHING FUNDS (\$)**

50,000

**IN-KIND SUPPORT**

### **Public**

**MATCHING FUNDS (\$)**

341,219

**IN-KIND SUPPORT**

## **29. Project Budget.**

Please specify what expenses will be covered by the grant. Itemize anticipated expenses and income (if any) for this proposal.\*

*Please complete each section with 1,500 characters or fewer (including spaces).*

### **Contracted services costs**

**EXPENSE:**

443,219

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

### **Staff costs, if any**

**EXPENSE:**

0

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Materials & supplies, if any**

EXPENSE:

0

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

**Travel expenses, if any**

EXPENSE:

0

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

**TOTAL REQUESTED**

EXPENSE TOTAL:

443,219

**30. How will you use AARP branding?\***

*Please complete section with 2,000 characters or fewer (including spaces).*

The council has approved a donor recognize plan that will put name plaques on certain items in the park including bricks. The city will recognize any gift by AARP, if allowed, by putting up a sign in this area.

**31. Other Funding.**

AARP might be contacted by other potential funders that could be interested in funding projects that were not funded through the AARP Community Challenge. The potential funders may have additional process steps and funding requirements than those of the AARP Community Challenge. If requested, AARP would like to send your contact information, organization name and a short description of your proposal, including the community where the project would take place ("Project Information"). Please note that these projects will be subject to any potential funder's own terms, conditions and review. Please indicate in your application whether or not you give permission to AARP to share your Project Information with other potential funders. If you select "yes," you agree on behalf of yourself and your organization to release AARP and its affiliates and their respective officers, directors, employees, contractors, agents and representatives from all liability associated with sharing the Project Information with potential funders. We will alert you before this Project Information is given to potential funders.

**Do you give AARP permission to share this Project Information with other organizations that might be interested in funding your project?\***

Yes

**An opportunity for other possible AARP funding.**

Please note that by submitting a proposal for the AARP Community Challenge initiative, you and your organization give AARP permission to reach out to you and others at your organization about other possible AARP funding opportunities that your proposal may be eligible for based on the AARP Community Challenge criteria. However, please note that AARP is not obligated in any way to consider your proposal for any additional AARP funding.

**NOTIFICATION**

When you **SUBMIT** this application, you will receive a confirmation email within the hour. If you do **NOT** receive a submission confirmation, you may not have submitted it successfully. Please go back and make sure you completed all required questions and did not go over the text box character limits.

All applicants will be notified of their funding status by email in June. In order to receive funding, selected applicants must execute and return a binding Memorandum of Understanding and completed financial forms to the AARP National office.

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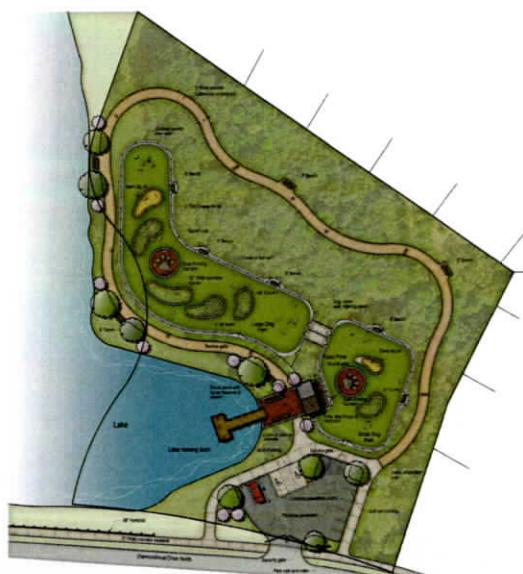
NAME: Michael Reso  
EMAIL: mreso@diamondhead.ms.gov  
ADDRESS  
ADDRESS LINE 1  
ADDRESS LINE 2  
CITY  
STATE/REGION  
ZIP/POSTAL CODE  
COUNTRY Andorra

#### EDITORS

| NAME         | COMPANY POSITION | PHONE NUMBER                                  |
|--------------|------------------|---|
| Michael Reso |                  | mreso@diamondhead.ms.gov <a href="#">View</a> |

#### ATTACHMENTS

| NAME                                 | DESCRIPTION | CREATED DATE                |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Dog Park Site Plan Rendering-REV.jpg |             | Apr 14, 2021 6:15:36 PM EDT |





Dog Park - City of Diamondhead  
• Conceptual Site Plan •  
Diamondhead, Mississippi

ORION OPD