



Executive Summary

City Council Workshop

AGENDA ITEM: Spring Youth Activities Grant

PREPARED BY: Kevin Larson, Assistant City Administrator

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion

Summary:

The Hennepin County Youth Activities Grants program helps improve access to activities for youth by providing grant funding to local government units in Hennepin County. The program is funded through a sales tax approved by the state for the construction of Target Field. Since it began, the program has awarded millions of dollars to support communities across the county.

The Hennepin County Youth Activities Grants offers several non-matching grant opportunities each year, including:

- Sports: Funding for play areas such as sports facilities, playgrounds, and sports equipment.
 - Grants up to \$300,000 are available for sports facilities and play areas
 - Construction is expected to take place between 9/1/26-12/31/28
- Water Safety: Funding for lifeguards and free or reduced-cost swim lessons
- Arts: Funding for art and music supplies, education, and programs

Eligibility

- Must be a local government unit in Hennepin County.
- Majority of young people receiving help from grant funding must reside within Hennepin County.
- Most young people receiving help from grant funding must be 18 years and younger for Play Area and Equipment Grants
- Grant funded projects must take place in Hennepin County

Timing

- Submission date: 5/7/26
- Anticipated grant award: September 2026

Possible play area projects

Ten applications may be submitted. Here are some ideas that Maple Plain may submit grant applications.

- Hockey rink renovation
- Pickleball court
- Rainbow Park playground
- Bryantwood playground
- Veterans Memorial Park playground pour-in-place
- Tot Lot playground pour-in-place

Discussion:

Staff is looking for Council direction regarding applying and, if the Council wants to apply, define which projects to apply for the Hennepin County Youth Activities Grants.