



**OREGON
CITY**



Metro

Community Enhancement Grant 2024-2025 Application

Thank you for your interest in the Metro Enhancement Grant Program. Before filling out the application, please read the Enhancement Grant 2024-25 Program Guidelines for complete instructions and to be sure that your proposal qualifies for funding. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. Kindly limit your answers to the space provided.

Please note that your organization may need to apply for city building permits and/or liability insurance coverage to implement your proposed project. *You may be able apply grant funds toward these costs.*

If you have questions, please contact Ann Griffin at agriffin@orc.org or 503-974-5517.

Title of Project The Abernethy and Singer Creek Parks Watershed Education and Enhancement Project

Applicant Organization Greater Oregon City Watershed Council

Is this a Non-Profit Organization? Yes ☒ No ☐

Non-Profit Federal tax-exempt ID Number 27-2507688

Address 500 Abernethy Rd., Suite 201

City, State, Zip Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Project Manager responsible for the Enhancement Grant project

Tom Gaskill, Executive Director

Phone (503)374-8279 Email tom.gaskill@gocwc.org

Chairperson of Governing Board (If Applicable) Cedomir Jesic

Phone (503)853-6986 Email cjesic@kittelson.com

Signature _____

(The person authorized to represent the organization must sign the application with a digital signature or actual signature on a hard copy.)

Proposal Information

1. Is this your first grant application to the Community Enhancement Grant program?
Yes ☐ No ☐
2. If you answered "No" to Q1, have you received an Enhancement Grant in the last 3 years?
Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, please describe the grant project(s) for which you received funding.

. The Greater Oregon City Watershed Council received two grants from the Community Enhancement funds in 2021-22 and 2022-23. These funds were used to develop a trail at Abernethy Creek Park and to enhance habitat through invasive plant removal and native plantings at Abernethy Creek Park, Singer Creek Park, and the Clackamas Community College Environmental Learning Center. This work was accomplished through the efforts of two different Confluence Americorps positions funded, in part, by the Community Enhancement grants. Multiple volunteer events and community engagement activities were supported to conduct the work.

3. Briefly describe the project for which you are requesting funds.

The Greater Oregon City Watershed Council is pursuing a Community Enhancement Grant to support our watershed education and restoration efforts at Singer Creek and Abernethy Creek Parks. This project will be designed and implemented in collaboration with our partner 's at Oregon City Parks and Recreation, Elyville Neighborhood Association, McLoughlin Neighborhood Association, and Oregon City residents.

The Abernethy and Singer Creek Parks Watershed Education and Enhancement Project has two components planned for each park. Funds will be primarily used to design, create, and install watershed health and natural area interpretation signage that will be supplemented with volunteer invasive species removal and planting parties.

A. Interpretive Signage

To further our mission of improving watershed health through restoration, education, and outreach in Oregon City, we are seeking funds to design, construct, and install interpretive signs at two project sites in City of Oregon City Parks. Sign installation will also include stabilizing the disc golf tees directly adjacent to the signs to improve safety and to make a more user-friendly recreation facility. We are collaborating with Oregon City Parks and Recreation staff on sign content, aesthetic, and placement to ensure our signs comply with parks visual and safety standards. Signs will be treated with an anti-graffiti and UV resistant laminate and printed on either fiberglass embedded or enamel materials.

Signs will convey interpretive information to park visitors, such as; landscape history, ecological and cultural significance, and information about local plant and animal communities. Signs will include visuals, such as maps, photographs, and graphics, that support the stories and contribute to the beauty of the City of Oregon City Parks. Signs will be designed with input from community

4. The proposed project must meet one or more of the following 10 goals. Please indicate which of the following outcomes your project will achieve by marking an "X" or a check mark.

- ☒ 1. Result in significant improvement in the cleanliness of the City.
- ☐ 2. Increase reuse and recycling efforts or provide a reduction in solid waste.
- ☒ 3. Increase the attractiveness or market value of residential, commercial or industrial areas.
- ☐ 4. Results in rehabilitation or upgrade of real or personal property owned or operated by a nonprofit organization having 501(c)(3) status under the Internal Revenue Code.
- ☒ 5. Enhance new or existing wildlife, riparian zones, wetlands, forest lands or marine areas, and/or improve the public awareness and the opportunities to enjoy them.
- ☒ 6. Preserve or increase recreational areas and programs within the City.
- ☐ 7. Improve safety within the City.
- ☒ 8. Increase employment or economic opportunities for City residents.
- ☒ 9. Provide work, training opportunities, or other benefit to youth, seniors, and low income people or other under-served groups.
- ☒ 10. Enhance art and culture within Oregon City.

5. Describe how the proposed project will meet the selected goal(s).

3. Increase the attractiveness or market value of residential, commercial or industrial areas. Removing invasive species, like Blackberry, increases the attractiveness of Oregon City parks and reduces the likelihood of nuisance species spreading into surrounding neighborhoods. Signs will also increase park attractiveness with aesthetically pleasing design.

5. Enhance new or existing wildlife, riparian zones, wetlands, forest lands or marine areas, and/or improve the public awareness and the opportunities to enjoy them. This project will increase public awareness of riparian areas, their functions, resident plants/animals, and why it is important to protect them. It will also enhance riparian habitat by removing black locust trees, blackberry, and other invasives, and replacing them with native shrubs and trees.

6. Preserve or increase recreational areas and programs within the City. A part of this project targets the disc golf courses in Singer Creek Park, with the goal of increasing users' awareness of nearby habitat features with signs placed strategically near disc-golf tees.

8. Increase employment or economic opportunities for City residents by hiring local contractors

6. Project Period

Beginning Date: 7/01/2024

Ending Date: 6/60/2025

7. How will the community benefit from your project? What is the estimated number of people affected and anticipated outcome(s)?

Singer Creek Park hosts a number of recreational facilities, including a popular disc golf course, which is the target for our signage and recreational improvements and has an estimated between ten to fifteen thousand visitors annually.

Communities who are expected to benefit from this project include park visitors who will have the opportunity to learn more about the Oregon City-area watersheds where they live, work and recreate. Through outreach events and regular public use of the locations, several hundred or more Oregon City residents will experience improved habitat conditions within public parks and natural areas.

8. Briefly describe your organization's prior experience managing similar projects.

The council has produced and installed metal signs at major creek intersections along roadways throughout the watershed to notify visitors and residents of waterways and to increase awareness of otherwise hidden waterways. We have also overseen and supported similar construction projects that include fencing and major in-stream restoration enhancements that required the use of engineers and construction contractors.

In 2023 the Council planted 375 trees, 180 shrubs, and 40 herbaceous plants along Singer Creek and its tributaries in Singer Creek Park. The main priorities for planting native

9. Describe the measurements you will use to assess the project's effectiveness? Be sure to describe project goals, changes and noticeable benefits that will come about as a result.

The goals of this project are to:

1. Improve public watershed health literacy
2. Contribute beautification to City of Oregon City Parks with aesthetic signage that combines visual art with education.
3. Foster a sense of place, community, and an ethic of watershed stewardship among park visitors.
4. Honor the unique relationships Indigenous communities have to the lands and waters in Oregon City
5. Contribute beautification to City of Oregon City Parks with aesthetic signage that combines visual art with education.
6. Foster a sense of place, community, and an ethic of watershed stewardship among diverse park visitors, especially those using disc golf courses or pathways adjacent to active riparian restoration areas.
7. Honor the unique relationships Indigenous communities have to the lands and waters in the Oregon City area

Proposed Budget

Project Costs	(A) Grant Dollars Requested	(B) Matching Funds(Cash)	(C) In-Kind Matching Support	(D) Total
Personnel Services (salaries, administration)	6,840	3,500		9,062
Project Administration costs (clerical, advertising, graphics, printing, postage)	600	1,500		600
Materials	7,500			6,420
Equipment/Supplies			1,500	
Construction Costs	5,500			5,500
Event Costs	2,000			2,000
Transportation Costs				
Insurance Costs (if needed)				
Consultants/trainers			1,100	1,000
Use the lines below to add any additional costs:				
Gift cards for youth incentives	2,000			2,000
Plants and soil amendments	2,500			1,500
GOCWC board review & involvement			1,500	
Volunteer time to remove invasive and plant native species			2,500	
Totals	26,940	5,000	6,600	38,540

10. Proposed Budget. On the previous page, please describe the project's proposed budget. Please note that matching resources ARE REQUIRED. The total match amount required depends upon the total project cost. Matching funds may be either cash or in-kind. An in-kind match is a form of support for the project that does not need to be directly paid for. For example, the value of volunteer service is considered a match. Volunteer labor may be valued at an estimated rate of \$27.20 per hour.

Total Project Cost	Additional Funding Requirement
\$0 to \$9,999	10% of total project cost
\$10,000 to \$19,999	20% of total project cost
\$20,000 to \$39,999	30% of total project cost
\$40,000 to \$50,000	40% of total project cost

Using your proposed budget from the previous page, please list the Grant Amount Requested, the total Matching Funds (Cash) and total In-Kind Matching Support. The total project cost is the sum of these three amounts.

Grant Amount Requested:	26,940
+ Matching Funds (Cash):	5,000
+ In-Kind Matching Funds	6,600
= Total Cost of Project:	38,540

11. **Description of In-Kind Match.** List the sources of support for the project’s in-kind match (e.g., volunteer hours and donations). As described in the Enhancement Grant Program Information document, volunteer labor may be valued at an estimated rate of \$27.20 per hour.

Item	Source of Support	Estimated Value (\$)
Restoration Volunteers	Volunteer work parties	2,500
GOCWC Board Involvement	Greater Oregon City Watershed Council	1,500
Consult	Retired Metro communications specialist	1,100
Equipment and supplies	Greater Oregon City Watershed Council	1,500

12. List all grants applied for in support of this project and commitments confirmed to date.

Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District 2024 Education and Outreach funds (secured) = \$3,500

13. Administrative costs are allowed as part of the project. What percentage of Enhancement Grants funds will be used for personnel services or administrative costs?28%

These funds will support the GOCWC Outreach & Engagement Coordinator's time supervising and coordinating the project and will be matched by administrative time from the GOCWC Executive Director.

14. Letter(s) of Support

Please include one or more letter(s) of support for the proposed project. Letters of support demonstrate that people who could be impacted by a project are aware of it and in support of it.

Required letters of support include:

- a) Active partner organization – If your organization is working in collaboration with a partner organization, please include a letter of support from that partner organization.
- b) Property owner - If the project will have an impact on private property or city-owned property, then a letter of support should be included from the property owner. For example, if the proposed project will take place in a city-owned park, then a letter of support should be included from the Oregon City Parks and Recreation Department.
- c) Neighborhood Association - Applicants should also include a letter of support from a relevant neighborhood association if there is an active neighborhood association where the proposed project will take place. We recognize that several neighborhoods do not have an active neighborhood association. To learn more about what neighborhood your project is in, go to the City of Oregon City website, and search “What Neighborhood Am I In?” (<https://www.orcity.org/404/What-Neighborhood-Am-I-In>)

Will my project impact the City?

Please contact the City of Oregon City if you think that your project will impact City operations or facilities, such as a park, sidewalk or public right of way. You should request written acknowledgement from the applicable City Department that the project meets applicable City requirements. Some proposals may require liability insurance.

Please contact Ann Griffin to discuss.

Metro Enhancement Grant Eligibility Criteria

Name of Organization: Greater Oregon City Watershed Council

Name of Project:	The Abernathy and Singer Creek Parks Watershed Education and Enhancement Project
Address:	500 Abernathy Rd. Suite 201 Oregon City, OR 97045
Total amount requested (A):	\$25,940
Match cash (B):	\$ 5,000
Match in-kind (C):	\$ 6,600

The applicant organization must meet ALL of the following criteria to apply for a Metro Enhancement grant. Check to confirm that each condition is met.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>1) The applicant organization must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a charitable organization – such as a 501 c 3 certified organization or other tax-exempt nonprofit that engages in charitable work • a neighborhood association in the Oregon City • a department of the City of Oregon City
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>2) Application must be in good standing and have a current registration with the State of Oregon.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>3) The project must meet at least <u>one</u> of the 10 Metro project criteria:</p> <p><u> x </u> 1) Result in significant improvement in the cleanliness of the City.</p> <p><u> </u> 2) Increase reuse and recycling efforts or provide a reduction in solid waste.</p> <p><u> x </u> 3) Increase the attractiveness or market value of residential, commercial or industrial areas.</p> <p><u> </u> 4) Result in rehabilitation or upgrade of real or personal property owned or operated by a nonprofit organization having 501(c)(3) status under the Internal Revenue Code.</p> <p><u> x </u> 5) Enhance new or existing wildlife, riparian zones, wetlands, forest lands or marine areas, and/or improve the public awareness and the opportunities to enjoy them.</p> <p><u> x </u> 6) Preserve or increase recreational areas and programs within the City.</p> <p><u> </u> 7) Improve safety within the City.</p> <p><u> x </u> 8) Increase employment or economic opportunities for City residents.</p> <p><u> x </u> 9) Provide work, training opportunities, or other benefit to youth, seniors and low- income persons or underserved population.</p> <p><u> x </u> 10) Enhance art and culture within the City.</p>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4) The services provided as a result of the grant must be provided within Oregon City and/or be for the benefit of Oregon City residents.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>5) The proposed project must meet the required project match.</p> <p>The total project cost is in column D. Match required for this size project (M): <u>30%</u></p> <p>Is $(B + C) / D \geq M$</p> <p>$11,600/38,540 = 30\%$</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6) The proposed project must be completed by June 30, 2025.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>7) Letter of support from the entity as described below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter of support from affected parties within the geographical boundary of the grant project (e.g., a neighborhood association; business association; or government entity). • A letter of acknowledgement from each City Department that could be affected by the project. • If there is a project partner organization, a letter of support from the project partner should be included. • Written acknowledgment from applicable City Departments that the project meets requirements set forth by the City. Documentation should be included in the application packet.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8) Funds must not be used to replace any other public funds - federal, state or local funds.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9) Is the application signed by an appropriate person?

Does the proposed project meet the grant eligibility criteria?

☒ Yes ☐ No

M C L O U G H L I N



N E I G H B O R H O O D
A S S O C I A T I O N

May 9, 2024

Metro Enhancement Committee
City of Oregon City
625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045
Re: Greater Oregon City Watershed Council

Dear Metro Enhancement Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Greater Oregon City Watershed Councils application request for funding of their project to install interpretive signs at Abernethy Creek park as well as Singer Creek park. As we understand this project, the goal is to help fund a signage program for these neighborhood parks that would help direct visitors to the parks around sensitive areas or reclamation areas in the park while educating people on the importance of these areas in protecting our natural water resources and the flora and fauna that inhabit these creeks.

The McLoughlin neighborhood heard the presentation regarding the proposal at our May 2nd General meeting, the members were pleased with the project and felt this would only enhance our visitors' experience in these parks and approved of the proposal by a majority. We support this project and would recommend that the Metro Enhancement Committee fund this program without hesitation.

The McLoughlin Neighborhood Association further believes that projects that seek to educate and entertain our citizens and visitors will help to create a sense of community.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Tim Powell', written over a horizontal line.

Tim Powell

Chair

McLoughlin Neighborhood Association

Cc: Greater Oregon City Watershed Council