

CITY OF WHITTIER, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 2026-014

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITTIER, ALASKA,
ESTABLISHING A 2026 PILOT WHITTIER COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION
MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM, ESTABLISHING A COUNCIL REVIEW
COMMITTEE, ADOPTING PROGRAM GUIDELINES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to encourage visible, permanent exterior improvements to commercial and mixed-use properties within the City of Whittier; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes that improving the visual character of commercial areas, reducing visible exterior clutter, and encouraging reinvestment contribute to community pride and economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, the Council has allocated funding within the FY2026 budget for community support and/or beautification initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to establish a one-year pilot matching grant program for calendar year 2026 to incentivize qualifying exterior improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE WHITTIER CITY COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES:

Section 1. Establishment of Pilot Program. The Whittier Community Beautification Matching Grant Program is hereby established as a one-year pilot program for the 2026 funding cycle only. Unless reauthorized by future Council action, this program shall expire on December 31, 2026.

Section 2. Funding. A total of \$25,000 from General Fund Reserves (Account No. 01-000-3000) is appropriated to Contracted Services (Account No. 01-700-6565) and is hereby authorized for the 2026 pilot program. Grant awards shall be issued on a 50 percent reimbursement basis, subject to the maximum award limits and eligibility criteria set forth in the Program Guidelines attached as Exhibit A.

Section 3. Program Timeline. The 2026 pilot program shall operate according to the following schedule:

- Application Period Opens: April 22, 2026
- Application Period Closes: May 8, 2026
- Council Review Committee Evaluation: May 11–May 14, 2026
- Council Award Approval: May 19, 2026 Regular Meeting
- Project Completion Deadline: November 15, 2026
- Reimbursement Submission Deadline: December 1, 2026

No retroactive awards shall be permitted.

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Section 4. Council Beautification Review Committee. A three-member Council Beautification Review Committee is hereby established for the limited purpose of reviewing and scoring complete applications submitted under this pilot program. Members shall be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by Council. The Committee shall:

1. Review completed applications for eligibility;
2. Score applications using a predetermined rubric;
3. Recommend award amounts to the full Council for approval.

The Committee’s authority shall expire upon completion of the 2026 award cycle.

Section 5. Adoption of Program Guidelines. The Program Guidelines attached hereto as Exhibit A are hereby adopted for the 2026 pilot program.

Section 6. Administration. The City Manager is authorized to:

- Verify eligibility requirements;
- Process reimbursement documentation;
- Issue reimbursement payments upon verification of project completion in accordance with approved awards;
- Implement administrative procedures necessary to carry out the pilot program.

Section 7. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the Whittier City Council on this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Victor Shen
Mayor

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

Shelby Carlson
Acting City Clerk

(City Seal)