



2011 Neighborhood Matching Fund SDOT and Parks Projects Criteria

The Neighborhood Matching (NMF) supports partnerships between the City of Seattle and neighborhood organizations to produce neighborhood-initiated planning and organizing, and improvement projects that build communities. Many of these community projects require the approval and coordination with Seattle Parks and Recreation (DPR), as well as Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT). Guidelines for suitable projects for each department are outlined below. In addition, DPR will manage a maximum of 10 NMF capital planning or development projects at any given time (which does not include Parks non-capital projects).

Historically each city department has had criteria for determining the projects that could be led and implemented by community groups. At the same time, there are projects that are not suitable due to their complexity in scope, high need for City staff support, and/or possible increase in City operating and maintenance costs. Due to 2011-12 budget reductions and staffing constraints, it is important for prospective applicants to be aware of the following project criteria developed by the City of Seattle.

Dept.	Suitable Project	Project Not Suitable
Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovates existing park features such as park furniture, play areas, gathering areas, and landscaping. • Includes sustainable elements such as native and drought tolerant plantings (reduction of water usage), rain gardens (reduction of water runoff into the City storm system), or removal of concrete or asphalt and replacement with pervious surfaces that do not add maintenance and operating cost in the short- or long-term. • Began project using previous NMF awards such as planning and design projects that do not add significant new maintenance and operations costs. • Leverages other funded Parks projects; for example, a Parks and Green Spaces Levy project or maintenance project. • Is a noncapital project, such as holiday celebration, musical and other cultural events, oral histories, brochures or research into park history. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adds significant new operations and maintenance costs such as water features, nonstandard lighting, or large decorative planting beds. • Does not have an approved concept plan for a construction project (this prerequisite may be satisfied with a Small and Simple Fund award for planning and design). • Requires preparation of master plans for large park sites such as Discovery Park. • Requires prolonged fund raising efforts or may not be developed for some extended period of time. • Duplicates similar existing park features or projects in the same park service area. • Makes alterations to recently built facilities.
SDOT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes small scale tree planting, planting strip enhancements, and beautification projects. • Develops small traffic calming projects (e.g., traffic circles). • Installs bike racks, individual kiosks, and/or pole banners. • Creates murals and paints signal boxes • Produces a special event (with permits issued by Special Event Committee). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires construction permits and/or significant infrastructure additions. • Includes neighborhood-wide planning efforts requiring extensive design, input, or coordination. • Adds new stairways and pathways in unopened Right-of-Ways. • Makes street-end enhancements.

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