



**GREENPOINT
COMMUNITY
ENVIRONMENTAL
FUND**

gcefund@northbrooklyn.org
www.gcefund.org
718.389.9044 ext. 15

Request for Proposals 2015

Highlights

The overall goal of the GCEF is to secure significant environmental improvements in Greenpoint. More specifically, the GCEF is:

- Designed to support projects that address the community's environmental priorities, such as improving water quality, groundwater, open space, toxic pollution, and air quality; and
- Committed to a transparent and objective process, and to engaging and partnering with the Greenpoint community. This includes ensuring the community has a direct, continuing role in guiding the GCEF's development and implementation.

This is the second **Request for Proposals (RFP)** for projects that address the community's environmental improvement priorities. It is expected that this is the final grant cycle.

Greenpoint Environmental Improvement Priorities

The following list broadly reflects environmental improvement priorities emerging from GCEF community outreach:

- **Green Streets and Other Community Greening.** The installation of environmental benefit projects along neighborhood streets to improve local water and air quality, reduce energy consumption, reduce the heat island effect, and improve neighborhood aesthetics.
- **Waterfront Restoration and Infrastructure.** The creation of public access to the waterfront and efforts to restore its natural functions.
- **Greening Community Buildings, Facilities and Infrastructure.** The reduction of the environmental impacts, both inside and out, at schools, libraries, community centers, firehouses and other community buildings.
- **Parks and Open Space.** The acquisition, creation, and enhancement of parks and public spaces, including playgrounds and sports fields, and undeveloped areas. The purpose of such projects may be to reduce air and water pollution impacts in Greenpoint, while also providing recreational opportunities and enhancing community quality-of-life.
- **Environmental Education and Stewardship.** The fostering of careful, responsible management of Greenpoint's environment, and the promotion of broad public environmental awareness.



Grant Categories

The following are the categories of grants being offered in GCEF in this grant cycle:

- **Small Grants:** Grants from \$5,000 to \$ 100,000 will be available for small- to medium-scale environmental improvement projects.
- **Large Grants:** Grants from \$101,000 to \$ 600,000 will be available for environmental improvement projects that have a more significant scale and scope than Small Grants.
- **Legacy Grants:** Grants from \$601,000 to \$4,250,000 will be available for environmental improvement projects that provide exceptional benefits to the Greenpoint community.

Other Important Elements of the RFP

Environmental Benefit. The primary benefit of GCEF projects must be a discernable environmental benefit . An environmental benefit is defined as the protection, improvement, or restoration of an environmental media (i.e., air, water, land) for the purpose of improving public health and/or the environment.

Eligible Applicants: Non-profit 501(c) organizations, tribal, and local governments, and academic and educational institutions. Groups without 501(c) non-profit status may partner with an eligible applicant, including a fiscal sponsor.

GCEF Boundaries: Projects must be located in Greenpoint. Under GCEF, Greenpoint is defined as the area of Brooklyn, New York encompassed by 11222 Zip Code and the entirety of McCarren Park.

Grant Review. Small Grants will be reviewed by the GCEF General Administrator (GA). Large and Legacy Grants will be reviewed by an Independent Review Committee (IRC) comprised of neutral subject-matter experts with no relationship to any proposal. All proposals will be reviewed based on the evaluation criteria provided in the full RFP.

Grant Selection. For Small Grants, the State will use the GA review to guide its decision-making on projects to be funded. For Large and Legacy Grants, the State will use the results of the IRC review to guide selection of projects for community preferencing, and use the results of the preferencing in its decision-making on projects to receive funding.

Community Preferencing. Greenpoint residents have a direct role in guiding selection of GCEF projects. Following the IRC review and the State's selection of projects to participate, preferencing events will be held to provide Greenpoint residents an opportunity to voice their preferences among proposed Large and Legacy projects. The preferencing results will be used by the State in its decision-making on projects to receive funding.

Important Dates to Remember

- Monday, May 4, 2015, 6:30pm-8:30pm: Community Meeting about GCEF 2015
- May 14, 21, 28, 30, June 4, and June 11: Applicant Workshops, Webinar, and Bootcamp
- Thursday, August 6, 2015, 11:59pm: All Proposals Due
- October 2015: Announcement of Small Grant funding
- Week of November 16: Community Preferencing for Large and Legacy Grant funding
- December 2015: Announcement of Large and Legacy Grant funding

Questions? Visit www.gcefund.org or contact gcefund@northbrooklyn.org, 718-389-9044 ext. 15.

