



**GREENPOINT
COMMUNITY
ENVIRONMENTAL
FUND**

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

2015 GCEF LARGE/LEGACY GRANT AWARD PROCESS

On April 28, the Greenpoint Community Environmental Fund (GCEF) released a “Request for Proposals” for the GCEF’s 2015 grant round. The due date for proposals was August 6, 2015. GCEF supported the RFP by offering a sustained program of meetings, workshops, one-on-one assistance, and other help to prospective applicants that provided information and support to over 150 interested parties.

In response to the April RFP, GCEF received 12 Large Grant proposals (\$101,000 to \$600,000) and 4 Legacy Grant proposals (\$601,000 to \$4,250,000), totaling over \$12 million in requested funding.

All Large and Legacy Grant proposals were closely reviewed and scored by a committee of independent experts, and the results were provided to the State. Based on the committee’s evaluations, the State selected the 9 highest-scoring proposals to share with the Greenpoint community through “preferencing” events – gatherings designed to give residents an opportunity to express their preferences among these proposals. The results of preferencing will be used by the State in making final selections of projects to receive GCEF funding.

The following provides an overview of the full process the GCEF is using to award 2015 GCEF Large and Legacy Grants.

<p>LARGE/LEGACY GRANT FULL PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO NFWF <i>August 6, 2015</i></p>	<p>Of the 42 funding applications GECF received, 12 proposals were for Large Grants (\$101,000 to \$600,000) and 4 proposals were for Legacy Grants (\$601,000 to \$4,250,000). In total, the 16 proposals requested over \$12 million in GCEF funding.</p>
---	---



<p>INDEPENDENT REVIEW COMMITTEE REVIEW AND SCORE OF PROPOSALS <i>September 28 – October 9, 2015</i></p>	<p>An Independent Review Committee (IRC) – comprised of neutral subject-matter experts with no relationship to any of the proposals under consideration – reviewed and scored the proposals based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Results • Work Plan • Budget • Partnerships in Greenpoint • Communication Plan • Contribution of Matching Funds <p>See Appendix 1 for details on the criteria used in evaluating the proposals.</p>
<p>SYNTHESIS OF IRC REVIEW AND SCORING <i>October 12- October 16, 2015</i></p>	<p>At the conclusion of the IRC review, NFWF summarized the results and identified a score above which projects were deemed by the IRC to be of sufficient quality, technical proficiency, and likelihood of success as to merit GCEF funding. This summary was provided to the State.</p>
<p>STATE SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE SHARED WITH COMMUNITY FOR “PREFERENCING” <i>October 16- October 31, 2015</i></p>	<p>Based on the IRC results, the State selected 9 project proposals to share with the Greenpoint community to solicit their preferences.</p> <p>The projects selected for community “preferencing” may be found at www.gcefund.org.</p>
<p>DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION ON PROPOSED PROJECTS TO COMMUNITY <i>November 6 – November 21, 2015</i></p>	<p>Leading up to the Greenpoint Community Preferencing events, the GCEF will distribute information about project proposals selected for preferencing. In addition to the GCEF website, information will be placed in local newspapers, distributed to schools, libraries, and other community facilities, and be provided to GCEF’s network of community partners for their distribution.</p>



<p>COMMUNITY “PREFERENCING” EVENTS <i>November 19 and November 21, 2015</i></p>	<p>GCEF will hold 3 Greenpoint Community Preferencing events to give residents an opportunity to express their preferences among Large and Legacy Grant projects proposed for the community. At these events, residents will be able to view poster boards about each proposed project, and cast a ballot designating their preferred projects.</p> <p>The schedule of preferencing events is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, November 19, 2015 from 12 noon to 2:30pm at the Brooklyn Expo Center, 72 Noble Street • Thursday, November 19, 2015 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at the Brooklyn Expo Center, 72 Noble Street • Saturday, November 21, 2015 from of 10:00am and 3:00pm at the Polish National Home “Warsaw” 261 Driggs Avenue <p>While members of the general public are welcome to attend the events, only Greenpoint residents will be eligible to “vote” on proposed projects.</p> <p>See Appendix 2 for eligibility requirements for participating in preferencing events.</p>
<p>SYNTHESIS OF RESULTS OF “PREFERENCING” <i>November 23 – December 1, 2015</i></p>	<p>At the conclusion of the Community Preferencing events, NFWF will count all completed ballots and summarize the results for the State.</p>



**STATE SELECTION OF 2015 GCEF
LARGE AND LEGACY GRANT
AWARDS**

Mid-December, 2015

Following its review of the results of community preferencing, and incorporating those project preferences into its decision-making, the State will make final selections of projects to receive GCEF funding.

The 2015 Large and Legacy Grant awards will be announced by the State.

**For more information, please visit
www.gcefund.org
or contact the
GCEF Community Liaison Office
at (718) 389-9044 ext. 15 or gcefund@northbrooklyn.org**



APPENDIX 1

CRITERIA USED IN EVALUATING LARGE AND LEGACY GRANT PROPOSALS

All proposals were evaluated and scored based on ***the extent to which*** they met the criteria listed below. The scoring criteria (and approximate associated weighting):

Environmental Results (35 points) -- The project will secure one or more discernible environmental benefits for the Greenpoint public.

- The project will result in significant, quantifiable, and public environmental benefits, with highest scores to be awarded to those projects that will provide the most significant and quantifiable environmental benefits to the greatest number of Greenpoint residents.
- The benefits of the project are sustainable beyond its completion date. *For Legacy Grants*, the project's benefits must be sustainable beyond its completion date, thus producing a legacy for Greenpoint.
- *For Legacy Grants*, the project has special characteristics (e.g., significant, quantifiable and public environmental benefits, project size or scale, number of Greenpoint residents served by the project, expected project life, level of community support for the project) that justify more funding than a Large Grant.

Work Plan (20 points) – The project is technically sound and feasible, and the proposal sets forth a clear, logical and achievable work plan.

- The work plan demonstrates project design and approaches that are based on sound science, best available scientific information and practices.
- The work plan is clear and logical, will accomplish the activities, objectives and results described in the proposal.
- The work plan, including its implementation schedule, clearly addresses any permitting and/or property ownership issues or concerns.
- The work plan demonstrates how environmental results and benefits, and in the case of *Legacy Grants*, the additional results and benefits of special project characteristics will be measured and tracked.
- The project team has the appropriate expertise, training and experience to execute the project and achieve its goals.
- The work plan demonstrates that the activities, objectives and results can be accomplished within the program's two-year timeframe for Small and Large Grants and three-year timeframe for Legacy Grants.
- The work plan demonstrates the sustainability of the activities, objectives and environmental benefits beyond the project's completion date (i.e., two years from the project start date for Small and Large Grants, and three years from the project start date for Legacy Grants). *For Legacy Grants*, the work plan must



demonstrate the project's benefits are sustainable beyond its completion date.

- If the project includes the collection or use of environmental data, the uploaded *Data Quality Assurance (QA) and Data Quality Control (QC) Narrative Template* provides a clear and scientifically sound method for addressing QA and QC, and provisions for its development and implementation.

Budget (20 points) – The project budget is cost-effective, reasonable, and leverages other partner contributions.

- The budget is cost-effective and reasonable.
- The budget provides enough detail to justify each budget line item.
- The budget is sufficient to accomplish the activities described in the work plan.
- The applicant has in place current, or explains how it have in place in a timely manner, institutional capacity, policies, and procedures necessary to track and administer the funds requested.
- *For Legacy Grants*, the relatively higher amount of requested budget is justified based the special characteristics of the projects, including significant, quantifiable, and sustainable benefits.
- If the project includes the collection or use of environmental data for the purpose of drawing conclusions about environmental conditions and/or health outcomes, the budget provides the necessary costs for developing and implementing a QAPP.

Greenpoint Partnership (20 points) – An appropriate community-based partnership exists to implement and sustain the project, and the project has significant community support.

- The applicant demonstrates significant support for the project from a broad-based group of community stakeholders.
- Community members and/or community-based organizations will be significantly engaged as project partners in implementing and sustaining the project after the life of the grant.
- *For Legacy Grants*, the applicant demonstrates and documents in all major components of the proposal (work plan and budget) the significant engagement of the community and/or community-based organizations in development or delivery of the project.

Communication (5 points) – The project includes a detailed plan to communicate information about the project to Greenpoint residents and other appropriate audiences.

- *For Legacy Grants*, the proposal identifies communication strategies and activities targeted to Greenpoint residents that will be executed to inform and engage the public in delivery of the project.

Bonus Points (5 points): Additional points may be awarded to those projects wherein the applicant or project partners will provide significant cash and/or in-kind contributions



to match the grant.

- For Large Grants, match of 1:1 or greater is encouraged and, for Legacy Grants, match of at least 2:1 is required. City agencies seeking grants are encouraged to maximize their match.
- For Small and Large Grants, for which a match is not required, bonus points will be awarded to proposals that include a contribution of match that is 100% (1:1) of the total grant request.
- Additional bonus points will be awarded to proposals where the contribution of match greater than 100%.
- Matching contributions that are “committed” may receive more bonus points than matching contributions that are “pledged” or “intend to apply”.



APPENDIX 2

ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN PREFERENCING

As with the Participatory Budgeting process, participation in GCEF “preferencing” will be open to all Greenpoint residents (those in zipcode 11222) aged 16 and over.

To receive a ballot, all prospective “voters” will be asked to register and provide a simple form of identification.

Acceptable identification (the same identification required in Participatory Budgeting) includes:

- Document with name and current address from a local, state or US government agency such as a state driver’s license, or non-driver ID, passport, military ID card
- Voter registration card
- Utility, medical, credit card bill with name
- Current lease
- Paycheck or paycheck stub from an employer or a W-2 statement
- Bank statement or bank-issued credit card statement
- Student ID
- Employee ID
- Permanent resident Card (green card) or other Immigration Document
- Residency letter or identification issued by a homeless shelter, half-way house, etc.
- Passport or other ID issued by a foreign government
- Social security benefit statements or check
- Employment Authorization Document
- Medicare or other insurance document (car or health)
- Tax forms
- School records
- Title to any property (auto, house)
- Birth or marriage certificate
- Union membership card

