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To: Chris Brillinger, Executive Director, Social Development, Administration and Finance

From: Carolyn Doyle, Agency Review Officer, Community Funding Unit

C.C.: Costanza Allevato, Director, Community Resources
Barbara Powell, Manager, Community Funding
John Smith, Manager, Community Development
Mini Alakkatusery, Supervisor, Community Funding

Re: **Delegated Authority to Approve Grants for 2017 Neighbourhood Grants Program**

Please find below the request for delegated approval for the Phase 2 of the 2017 Neighbourhood Grants Program:

- Approval of 35 resident-led groups recommended by the Resident Advisory Panel and Neighbourhood Planning Tables (Appendix A);
- \$70,500 to just Social Planning Toronto (SPT) to disburse \$1,000 to \$3,000 to each to the 35 recommended resident-led groups in Phase 2 (and up to \$195,000 to 195 groups in Phase 3);
- \$117,113 to Social Planning Toronto (SPT) for dedicated staff to deliver a capacity building program to grant recipient groups, its resident leaders, and potential applicants, and to provide all trusteeship services to up to 230 Neighbourhood Grant recipient groups in 2018 for Phase 2 and Phase 3 (totalling up to \$195,000).

Phase 2: The total 2017 approved budget for the Neighbourhood Grant Program is \$250,000. A balance of \$144,000 remains for disbursement from the Neighbourhood Grants budget in 2017. Eight grants totalling \$8,000 will be cancelled as the resident-led groups have not accessed them. This amount will be reduced from Phase 2 total grant amount (\$70,500) sent to Social Planning Toronto for disbursement to grant recipients.

Staff recommends the total disbursement of \$179,613 for Neighbourhood Grants (\$35,613 of which will come from the Community Investment Fund).

Delegated Authority Approval by Council

On March 28, 2017¹ City Council approved delegated authority to the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to approve, issue and enter into agreements for neighbourhood -grants to selected proponents and report back to the Community Development and Recreation Committee on awards made to the selected grant recipients.

Neighbourhood Grant Program & Process

In 2014, the City of Toronto approved the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020 (TSNS 2020). TSNS 2020 is the City of Toronto's action plan for making sure that each of our 140 social planning neighbourhoods can succeed and thrive. Residents and agencies from 31 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs) and 8 Emerging Neighbourhoods have come up with a list of changes they want to see – called the TSNS Actions. As a response, the Neighbourhood Grants of \$1,000 are for use by resident-led groups to support those TSNS Actions in local communities.

Refinements to the Program:

¹ <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.CD18.5>

Staff are committed to incorporating changes to the program pilot to ensure the grant program is meeting the needs of resident-led groups and ensuring deeper involvement of Neighbourhood Planning Tables. The following are highlights of changes made in Phase 2:

- Increased grant amounts from \$1,000 to \$1,000 - \$3,000;
- Increased role of neighbourhoods in making grant recommendations by piloting a 'dot-mocracy' selection process held at Neighbourhood Tables; and,
- Reduced staff administration-heavy workload by securing Social Planning Toronto to increase their responsibilities.

A Neighbourhood Grant Resident Selection Panel of seven members recruited from TSNS 2020 Neighbourhood Advisory Committee reviewed the 56 eligible applications for program fit, feasibility and TSNS alignment. The Selection Panel are recommending 35 applications totalling \$70,500.

Of the 35 applications recommended, 21 were recommended by the Resident Advisory Panel and 14 were recommended by the Neighbourhood Planning Tables.

The following are the distribution of the 35 projects recommended for delegated approval:

- 3% or 1 NIA/EN have three grant recipients recommended
- 23% or 8 NIAs/ENs have two grant recipients recommended
- 34% or 12 NIAs/ENs have one grant recipient recommended
- 40% or 14 NIAs/ENs does not have any grantee recommended

Recommended project ideas include:

- Community gardens for residents to learn about food security, nutrition and connect with nature
- Sporting and physical activity events
- Art and music festivals to celebrate youth cooperation and diversity
- BBQs and community festivals for community cohesion
- A Walk of Hope for Peace and a healing circle for community building
- Senior appreciation events to honour their contribution to communities

Neighbourhood Grant Resident Selection Panel

The selection process was enhanced by the recruitment of residents from two City program advisory groups who participated in the recommendations of grants. Members of the TSNS 2020 Resident Advisory Committee volunteered over 10 hours each to ensure the grants selected were of the best quality and would make an impact to the identified neighbourhoods.

Phased Approach

Round 2: Funding was available for events that take place in the 31 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs) and the 8 Emerging Neighbourhoods (ENs). Each neighbourhood was allocated \$3,000 to recommend grants in the amount of \$1,000 to \$3,000. The activities will be held between February 1, 2018 – July 31, 2018.

Neighbourhood Grant Capacity Builder/Administrative Partner

Social Planning Toronto was selected as the grant recipient to be the Capacity Builder/Administrative Partner on the project through a grant of \$55,000. Throughout the first phase of the project, they have conducted capacity building training workshops to support grant recipients, provided trusteeship services, informed the evaluation of the grant program, provided reporting and administered grant funds. They were selected following a call for proposals seeking applications from Community Services Partnership (CSP) funded organizations in May, 2017. Their contract has been renewed until December 31, 2018 wherein they will continue to provide the similar services in addition to a Celebration Event in June 2018.

Grant Recommendations for Approval:


1. The Resident Advisory Selection Panel and Neighbourhood Planning Tables recommend 35 resident-led groups for delegated approval for grants of \$1,000 to \$3,000 each for a total of \$62,500 (\$70,500


total grants in Phase 2 minus the \$8,000 unspent from Phase 1). The list of recommended groups are provided in Appendix A.

2. Staff recommends a grant of \$117,113 to Social Planning Toronto for dedicated staffing for the following deliverables from January, 2018 – December, 2018:
- Disbursing \$1,000 - \$3,000 Neighbourhood Grants to up to 152 approved resident-led groups (Grant Recipients) from across the City over two phases (35 grants in January/February, 2018 and up to 195 grants in July/August 2018).
 - Developing and implementing capacity building workshops to resident-led groups approved for Neighbourhood Grants over the term of the grant. Training workshops include guidance on topics such as applications, budgeting, reporting requirements, project and volunteer management, etc.
 - Plan and implement one celebration event for 86 grant recipients, Neighbourhood Planning Tables, mentors and other stakeholders on June 21, 2018.
 - Assist in gathering information to support a process and outcome evaluation.

It is anticipated that these Grants will help resident-led groups inspire their neighbourhoods with events to be held between February and July, 2018.

Approved by:


Chris Brillinger
Executive Director, SDFA


Date

Neighbourhood Grants Investment Program

2017 Fall Allocation Recommendations

Decisions made by the Resident Advisory Panel

	Neighbourhood Improvement Areas/ Emerging Neighbourhoods	2017 Neighbourhood Grant Applicant Group Name	2017 Amount Recommended
15	2 Mount Olive-Silverstone-Jamestown	North Etobicoke Resident Council	\$ 2,625.00
16	21 Humber Summit	HEARt*	\$ 3,000.00
17	27 York University Heights	Shoreham Court Youth Council	\$ 2,000.00
18	31 Yorkdale-Glen Park	Seniors First	\$ 2,500.00
19	32 Englemount-Lawrence	Lawrence Heights Inter-Organizational Network (LHION) Safety Sub-Committee	\$ 1,200.00
20	32 Englemount-Lawrence	Seniors on the Horizon	\$ 1,800.00
21	61 Taylor-Massey (formerly Crescent Town)	Bangla School	\$ 2,000.00
22	72 Regent Park	Regent Park Bangali Women's Group	\$ 2,000.00
23	85 South Parkdale	H.O.P.E. Community Garden	\$ 1,000.00
24	85 South Parkdale	Parkdale Community Peer Musicians Collective	\$ 1,000.00
25	85 South Parkdale	Parkdale Cares	\$ 1,000.00
26	116 Steeles	Steeles L'amoureux Neighbourhood Association	\$ 2,375.00
27	117 L'Amoreaux	Chester Le	\$ 3,000.00
28	121 Oakridge	Warden Youth Council	\$ 3,000.00
29	132 Malvern	MALVERN SENIORS GROUP	\$ 2,000.00
30	132 Malvern	Malvern Community Members	\$ 1,000.00
31	135 Morningside	Hatha Yoga Group	\$ 1,500.00
32	135 Morningside	Morningside-Mornelle Community	\$ 1,500.00
33	136 West Hill	KGO Adult Literacy Program	\$ 1,850.00
34	136 West Hill	Active Seniors Body and Mind	\$ 1,150.00
35	137 Woburn	Friends of Lawrence-Orton	\$ 3,000.00

Grand Total

\$ 70,500

Neighbourhood Grants Investment Program

2017 Fall Allocation Recommendations

Decisions made at the Neighbourhood Planning Table

	Neighbourhood Improvement Areas/ Emerging Neighbourhoods	2017 Neighbourhood Grant Applicant Group Name	2017 Amount Recommended
1	6 Kingsview Village-The Westway	Islington-St. Andrews Group	\$ 3,000.00
2	24 Black Creek	Black Creek Community Moms and kids Gardening Group	\$ 3,000.00
3	28 Rustic	Rustic NIA Community Group	\$ 3,000.00
4	43 Victoria Village	MOTHERS OF O'CONNOR	\$ 1,500.00
5	43 Victoria Village	Sky The Limit Celebration	\$ 1,500.00
6	44 Flemingdon Park	iBall Canada	\$ 3,000.00
7	55 Thorncliffe Park	Ujamaa Youth Group	\$ 3,000.00
8	91 Weston-Pelham Park	The Tech Savvy	\$ 1,500.00
9	91 Weston-Pelham Park	Artists for Weston-Pelham	\$ 1,500.00
10	111 Rockcliffe-Smythe	Black Creek Alliance	\$ 1,500.00
11	111 Rockcliffe-Smythe	Connect Youth	\$ 1,500.00
12	124 Kennedy Park	Gordon-Ridge Senior Group	\$ 3,000.00
13	126 Dorset Park	Dorset Park Neighbourhood Association (DPNA)	\$ 1,500.00
14	126 Dorset Park	The Windy Way Garden	\$ 1,500.00