

Small Cities Development Program Fact Sheet

Streetscape

Short Description of the Program:

- This activity involves providing streetscape improvements within a housing area or commercial area. This activity must be part of a large community planning effort with other improvements planned and is most likely in downtown or other gathering areas. Projects include, but are not limited to, parking design, improved sidewalk, street lighting, streetlight, trees and landscaping, and street furniture.

Program Objectives:

- The federal objective used for streetscape projects is to benefit low- and moderate-income people on an area basis (LMA) or to prevent/eliminate slum and blight conditions. A low- and moderate-income (LMI) person resides in households with household incomes up to 80% of the county median income. The federal objective can be met through the U.S. Census data or by establishing a slum and blighted area that meets the Minnesota HRA statute definition of 'blighted area.'

Use of Funds:

- Funds are used for eligible items, including decorative streetlights, garbage cans, signage, trees, benches, ADA sidewalks/bump outs, and monuments.
- The streetscape activity must be a part of a renewal plan adopted by the city.
 - Can be newly created or referenced as part of the city's comprehensive plan.
 - Attach the plan, show evidence of the plan being adopted by the city, and a rendering of streetscape elements (include maps, photos, and relevant supporting documentation).

Other Funds Required

- The amount of other funds required varies and is contingent upon the project type. However, the amount of leveraged resources play a significant role in determining whether the project is funded.



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Funding Assistance:

- This funding assistance is provided through a grant. The maximum grant award for a Single Purpose project is \$600,000. The maximum grant award for a Comprehensive project is \$1.4 million.

Timeline:

- Application Process is a 2-step process with a Preliminary Application and a Final Application.
- The timeline to complete projects usually is 30 months, depending on the project size and scope.

Resources:

- **DEED Small Cities Development Program**