



Chicago Works Community Challenge Application

Mayor Lightfoot's Chicago Works Community Challenge is a \$10M community investment initiative that will provide funding of up to \$1.5M for infrastructure investments in each of Chicago's seven planning districts. Dedicated funding will be allocated to community-identified enhancements to city-owned properties, including public parks, libraries, or city-owned residential vacant lots, as well as upgrades to outdoor Chicago Public School facilities.

"The Chicago Works Community Challenge serves as the latest step in the mission I set out to accomplish two years ago, which is to deliver the transformational investments our residents need in order to thrive. Like many of the other programs we've launched over the past two years, community input will play a huge role in this initiative because our residents know their neighborhoods best and deserve to have a say in what projects are developed in their communities." - Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot

Applications will be open starting June 1, 2021 and through August 30, 2021 at 11:59 PM. Finalists in each region will partake in community feedback and engagement sessions between October and December, 2021. Winning projects will be selected for funding based on a range of criteria, including financial feasibility, community preferences, project design, and impact. The City will aim to break ground on many of the projects in 2022.

*Applications may be filed by individuals or organizations.
Applicants must be City of Chicago residents.*

Eligibility

Projects must be located on residentially zoned City-owned vacant lots (directory [here](#)) or in facilities operated by Chicago Public Schools, Chicago Park District, or Chicago Public Library.

Eligible project types:

Renovations or site improvements to existing:

- Chicago Park District facilities, including Playground and Athletic Field Improvements
- Chicago Public School facilities (must be targeted towards exterior facility improvements, such as a new playground or turf field)
- Chicago Public Library facilities
- City of Chicago Community Service Centers. See locations [here](#)

Restorations of residentially zoned, City-owned vacant lots (e.g., the development of community

gardens, plazas and/or green space)

For reference, here are some example project types that could be completed with a \$1.5M budget (this list is not exhaustive):

- **New playground**
- **New turf field**
- **Space to Grow sites**
- **Library Teen Space, Children's Area or Early Learning Area renovations and buildouts**
- **Exterior garden beautification**
- **Field House improvements (e.g., new locker rooms, restrooms, gym floor)**
- **Ball field renovations (e.g., new backstops, dugouts, lighting, field upgrades)**



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Applicant Information

These questions are optional but helpful as the city works to ensure equitable access to opportunities such as this

* 1. Applicant first name

* 2. Applicant last name

* 3. Applicant phone number

* 4. Applicant email address

* 5. Applicant home zip code

* 6. Applicant race

* 7. Applicant ethnicity

* 8. Applicant gender



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Eligibility Information

* 9. Are you filing on behalf of yourself or an organization?

- Self
- Organization



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Organizational applicant eligibility

* 10. Organization address:

Organization legal name	<input type="text"/>
Building number	<input type="text"/>
Prefix direction (e.g., "North")	<input type="text"/>
Street name	<input type="text"/>
Unit number (if applicable)	<input type="text"/>
Zip code	<input type="text"/>

* 11. Is your organization located in the City of Chicago?

- Yes
- No



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Individual applicant eligibility

* 12. Are you a resident of the City of Chicago?

Yes

No

* 13. Primary place of residence:

Building number

Prefix direction (e.g.,
"North")

Street name

Unit number (if applicable)

Zip code



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Site details

All free response questions have a max. character limit of 1500

* 14. Project site address:

Number

Prefix direction (e.g.,
"North")

Street name

Zip code

* 15. Provide a brief description of the current, physical conditions of the project site and all existing structures, including any significant issues – confirmed or perceived (e.g., failing structures, quality of façade, etc.):

* 16. What is the current status of the property/project site?

- In-use
- Vacant
- Other, please explain



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Project details

All free response questions have a max. character limit of 1500

* 17. Project Title

* 18. Provide a description of the proposed project scope of work and overview of the completed project:

* 19. With whom in your community have you spoken about why this is an important project? Are any organizations working on similar projects in your community?

* 20. Identify and describe the intended, positive impacts the project will have on the community, including information about the population likely to benefit from these positive impacts:

* 21. How will your project improve the block where it is located?

22. To the best of your knowledge, are there any design issues that would impact feasibility?

23. [Optional]: Please attach any photos, sketches or other supporting documents you are able to provide for the proposed project:

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen



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Thank you for your interest in the Chicago Works Community Challenge. Please hit "submit application" below to submit and finalize your application.

If you have questions about the Community Challenge or your application status, please email DPD@CityofChicago.org.