




# Grant Programs at the City of Smithville

Wednesday, June 21 2023  
5:30PM, City Hall

## Review of Past Grant Activity: # Applications 2009-2023



Fiscal Year	# Applications	# Awarded	Pending	% # Success Not Incl. Pending	Average #/ Month
2008-2009 (part-time, Feb-Sep)	19	11	0	58%	2.4
2009-2010 (part time)	15	7	0	47%	1.3
2010-2011 (Veterans Park)	14	7	0	50%	1.2
2011-2012	28	14	0	50%	2.3
2012-2013	20	13	0	65%	1.7
2013-2014	37	21	0	57%	3.1
2014-2015	30	12	0	40%	2.5
2015-2016	32	19	2	63%	2.7
2016-2017	20	11	3	65%	1.7
2017-2018	32	23	0	72%	2.7
2018-2019	34	16.5	1	50%	2.8
2019-2020	32	17	0	53%	2.7
2020-2021	27.5	11.8	0	43%	2.3
2021-2022 (Eco Devo added)	22.0	19.5	0	89%	1.8
2022-2023	12.0	0.5	7.5	11%	1.5
Total	374.5	203.25	13.5	56%	2.2

According to Google: "What is a good grant writing success rate? ... (People are) often surprised to learn that on average, one in every 10 grant proposals is accepted. That's an average grant writing success rate. That means many grant writers have a lower grant writing success rate and many have a higher one." (www.professionalgrantwriter.org/learn-rejected-grant-proposal)

# Review of Past Grant Activity: Funding 2009-2023



Fiscal Year	\$\$ Requested	\$\$ Awarded	% \$ Success	Average \$\$/Month	# Months
2008-2009 (part-time, Feb-Sep)	\$666,713	\$70,182	11%	\$8,773	8
2009-2010 (part time)	\$962,743	\$433,110	45%	\$36,093	12
2010-2011 (Veterans Park)	\$2,970,560	\$269,063	9%	\$22,422	12
2011-2012	\$4,856,327	\$453,414	9%	\$37,785	12
2012-2013	\$1,726,124	\$1,100,940	64%	\$91,745	12
2013-2014	\$4,617,534	\$3,884,813*	84%	\$323,734	12
2014-2015	\$1,835,805	\$152,963	8%	\$12,747	12
2015-2016	\$722,384	\$763,924	106%	\$63,660	12
2016-2017	\$6,166,973	\$171,148	3%	\$14,262	12
2017-2018	\$3,094,294	\$240,766	8%	\$20,064	12
2018-2019	\$105,035,060	\$187,300	0.2%	\$15,608	12
2019-2020	\$1,488,931	\$3,489,689*	234.4%	\$290,807	12
2020-2021	\$2,222,719	\$1,478,616	66.5%	\$123,218	12
2021-2022 (Eco Devo added)	\$9,037,889	\$6,273,480	69.4%	\$522,790	12
2022-2023	\$1,020,248	\$1,127,945	110.6%	\$140,993	8
Total	\$146,425,405	\$20,098,603	14%	\$116,852	172
Total - withdrawn awards *	\$146,425,405	\$15,479,041	11%	\$89,994	172

\* The CAMPO Award of \$3.4M for the SH95 project in FY2013-14 was returned due to issues related to costs and utilities. The USDA Grant of \$1.9M was withdrawn in 2020 because funds became available through TXDOT/State of TX.

# Review of Past Grant Activity: Dept's & Partners 2009-2023



City Department/Partner	# Awards	\$ Total Funding
Public Works*	24	\$6,391,345
Police Department and Police Association	26	\$454,712
Public Library	48	\$354,784
Parks and Recreation Department	8	\$202,738
Cultural District (NEA for \$50K)	20	\$109,176
Municipal Court	3	\$45,340
Smithville Volunteer Fire Department	14	\$233,729
Partner: Workforce Training Center (SWTC) **	3	\$1,300,000
Partner: Bastrop County Long Term Recovery Team	4	\$855,495
Partner: Bastrop County HHW Facility	4	\$117,501
Partner: Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce	8	\$77,500

\* Two awards (CAMPO for SH95 sidewalks at \$3.4M and USDA for Utilities at \$1.2M) were awarded but had to be withdrawn. The awards are included in numbers to reflect that we did receive approval, but the funding is not reflected in the total funds.

\*\* This figure accounts for the three grants that are managed through the City as a fiscal sponsor for the SWTC. In total, the Director of Economic Development has assisted with 8 grants applications (1 still pending) totaling over \$7M for the operations of the Workforce Training Center. The Good Jobs Challenge Grant alone brings in over \$5M in resources to the tri-county area. Workforce Solutions: Rural Capital Area oversees this grant program and manages the entire project, which in total is over \$12M. SWTC is the lead on many other funding programs, and works in partnership with the City to ensure successful programming for our regional community.

## Review of Past Grant Activity: Selected Funders 2009-2023



Selected Grant Funders	# Awards	\$ Total Funding
Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT)	9	\$4,246,650
St. David's Foundation (SDF)	10	\$777,750
CAPCOG Juvenile Justice Grants	9	\$229,542
CAPCOG Solid Waste Grants	9	\$228,866
Union Pacific Foundation (UPF)	22	\$173,000
Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA)	12	\$172,837
Bastrop County (Annual Nonprofit program)	14	\$127,500
Bullet Proof Vest/Bullet Resistant Shield	9	\$102,881
Born Again Emporium (BAE)	9	\$72,340
Texas State Libraries & Archive Commission (TSLAC)	4	\$62,300
Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)	21	\$51,176

## Review of Grant Activity: Langford Grants



- TX Dept of Housing/Community Affairs HOME Grant
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
  - General Land Office (GLO)
  - Disaster Relief (DR)
  - Mitigation (MIT)
  - Mitigation Method of Distribution (MIT/MOD)
  - Resilient Communities Program (RCP)
- Federal Emergency Management Admin (FEMA)-Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Approximately \$20,000,000 in total over the past decade



## Review of Grant Process: Grant Seeking

- Conversations with Department Heads & City Manager lead to ideas for potential grant activity, parameters, narrative, and budget
- Information about available opportunities from a variety of sources
- Public Participation, Open Houses, Workshops also impact grant requests and parameters – sometimes this is a grant requirement
- Decision to administer grant In-House or through Grant Management Firm



## Review of Grant Process: Choosing to Apply

- Necessity
- Availability
- Opportunity
- Match Requirements
- Staff Bandwidth

## Review of Grant Process: Differences in Funders



- Every Funder is different!
  - Scope, mission, purpose,
  - Resources, total grant funds
  - Who/what/when they want to fund
- Federal Grants: More time, effort, public participation, partnerships, paperwork
- Smaller Funders: Generally for smaller projects
- Eligible Applicants, Expenses, Scope
- Project Mission must align with Funder Mission

## Value of Partnerships



- Generate better solutions and programs that benefit more people
- Proof that benefits will be more broadly distributed throughout the community
- Fiscal Sponsor possibilities
  - Based on Eligible Applicant requirements
  - Based on Ability to Administer/Manage funds and project implementation
- Budget constraints of organizations with small operating budgets



## Grant Application Process: Writing the Application

- Alignment of Project Needs/Goals with Funder's Mission
- Developing the Narrative (Answering the Questions)
- Budget Development
- Application Review Process
- Providing a Complete Package
- Deadline for Submission
- Award (or not)—six weeks to six months—competitive!



## City Grants: Developing an "Award" Process

- Evolving!
- Traditional use of Community Service Budget Line
  - Before the Cultural District, this was the only way the City would "grant" funds to nonprofits
  - Nonprofit would communicate need with Council members, and City Council would determine funding amounts during Budget Workshops
- Previous use of Cultural District Funds
  - Leveraging City dollars with TCA grant dollars
- Current Granting Program through Cultural District and Community Engagement Coordinator



## Public Participation and Grant Programs

- Stronger Public Participation always means more points for grant requests!
- Federal/State Program Requirements
  - Notifications in "Newspaper of Record" and posted in three public locations for a minimum of 21 days
  - Public Meeting requirements for notification and project development
- TDA, TXDOT, TCA Grant Examples
  - TDA: June 2022 Public Hearing
  - TXDOT Sidewalks: Meetings timed for grant deadlines, surveys administered connected to projects
  - TCA: Minimum of two public meetings per year



## Cultural District: FY 2022-23 Budget

2022-2023 Expenses	Allocated	TCA	Cultural District	Veterans Park	CEC	Library + FOI grants	City ARFA	Sponsorships	SEF	Chamber/KSB
Sculpture on Main (artist stipends/signs)	\$1,370		\$1,370							
Youth Banner Program	\$4,000							\$3,000	\$3,000	
Historic Smithville Coloring Books	\$500							\$500		
Summer Reading Club	\$6,811					\$6,811				
Riverbend Park Walking Trail	\$750		\$750							
Wayfinding Signs (Train Topper)	\$3,706		\$3,706							
SHS City Historic Marker (+1) (+ shipping)	\$608		\$608							
TCA Grant: Songs of Smithville	\$9,000	\$4,500					\$1,500	\$3,000		
TCA Grant: Play at Gazebo Park--Peter Pan	\$4,000	\$2,000					\$1,000	\$1,000		
TCA Grant: Veterans Park Art/Storytelling	\$5,000	\$2,500		\$2,500						
Music in the Park (w/Chamber)	\$1,075		\$538							\$538
Carne Lenta "Loud TeXmas" (Joe Oviedo)	\$500		\$500							
Common Thread (Bernadette Noll)	\$2,800		\$800			\$2,000				
Smithville Music Festival (Jeannie Ralph)	\$1,000		\$1,000							
Baz Muzik production class (Baz Lancelin)	\$1,000		\$1,000							
Retaining Wall Mural (Jenny Busch)*	\$750		\$700					\$800		
Jorge Sanhueza-Leon's Portraits*	\$1,000		\$1,000							
CEC: Signage	\$6,000				\$6,000					
CEC: Makers Market	\$1,500				\$1,500					
CEC: Towers Nursing Home	\$4,500				\$4,500					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$57,870</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>	<b>\$11,971</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>	<b>\$8,811</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$8,800</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$538</b>

\* Waiting on Proposal Revisions from these Applicants.



# Discussion & Action: Cultural District Application

**Richard D. Latham Cultural District**  
 Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX

**The City's Cultural District Grant requires a 10% cash or "in-kind" match.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Artist(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Potential/Actual Partners: \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description of the Project:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Plan for Public Participation:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Match (10%) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*NOTE: Smithville can only support public art projects that cost over \$1,000. Include the Budget form (enclosed) with your application.

**Sponsorship/Matching Opportunities/Notes** - where will the 10% cash/in-kind match come from? (Be as specific as possible with names of people and organizations who you have contacted that would be willing to provide matching funds).  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I would like this application to be considered for a TCA grant.  
10% match will be required per TCA - City Staff will work with the artist(s) to work out match options.

**Return this form:**  
 By email: Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison: [jstrube@lathamtda.tx.us](mailto:jstrube@lathamtda.tx.us)

**Mail to:**  
 Jill Strube, Cultural District Liaison  
 City of Smithville/Cultural District  
 PO Box 449  
 Smithville, TX 78657

**Richard D. Latham Cultural District**  
 Proposal for Public Art Project in Smithville, TX

**Cultural District Application Check List:**

**Required:**

- Project Proposal
- Artist's Statement of Qualifications/Resume
- W-9 Form
- Fiscal Budget Spreadsheet
- Letter of commitment regarding match responsibilities (if the artist has asked another person or organization to provide the match, that person/organization must supply the letter of commitment)

*If the proposal is submitted by a nonprofit:*

- IRS Letter of Determination

**Optional:**

- Sketches, materials list, other information that will help envision the project
- Letters of support from community members/organizations (up to three)

**Criteria for Project Selection**

Criteria	Explanation	Max Points
Project Includes all required elements	Applicants will require all components to ensure fair evaluation of all applications	5
Feasibility	The project must have the potential to be implemented	10
Project Budget	Reasons and reasonable budget	10
Experience & Qualifications & W-9 Letter (if applicable)	Artists need to have the experience and qualifications that would ensure successful project implementation	20
Commitment to the project	Artists need to have the experience and qualifications that would ensure successful project implementation	5
Impact on Community	In order for public funds to be spent, the project needs to benefit Smithville residents	20
Artistic Quality	The quality of the artwork needs to be of high quality	20
<b>Total Points</b>		<b>100</b>

**Sketches, Materials List, etc.**  
 Information that will help reviewers envision the project. Bonus 5

**Community Support**  
 Letters of support, surveys, other backup showing evidence that the community is in favor of the project. Bonus 5

**Bonus Points Total** 10

Upon completion, the artist(s) will be required to provide a brief report including an evaluation of the success of the project in relation to any specific goals per project requirements, if applicable.



# Discussion & Action: Community Service Awards

Award Recipients	FY 2022-23
Angels Unaware	\$1,000.00
Bastrop County Child Welfare	\$1,500.00
CARTS	\$2,500.00
CASA	\$1,000.00
Combined Community Action	\$1,500.00
Family Crisis Center	\$800.00
PSTMP	\$1,000.00
Salvation Army	\$1,000.00
Smithville Community Clinic	\$3,000.00
Smithville Community Gardens	\$1,500.00
Smithville Food Pantry	\$2,500.00
Smithville Heritage Society	\$2,500.00
Smithville Little League	\$1,000.00
Smithville Music Festival	\$500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,300.00</b>



# Discussion & Action: Community Svc. Application



**SMITHVILLE**  
TEXAS

**City of Smithville  
Community Service Budget Request**

**Objectives/Budget Request:**  
This is a public notice of intent to have a community service application reviewed. The purpose of this notice is to provide the community with an opportunity to provide input on the proposed project. The project is being proposed by the City of Smithville, Texas. The project is being proposed by the City of Smithville, Texas. The project is being proposed by the City of Smithville, Texas.

**Application Timeline:**  
 Review of applications for the budget request of the application period:  
 • June 20, 2023 - Application Period ends, subject to City Council or City Manager  
 • July 13, 2023 - Application Period ends, subject to City Council or City Manager  
 • July 13, 2023 - Application Period ends, subject to City Council or City Manager  
 • July 13, 2023 - Application Period ends, subject to City Council or City Manager  
 • July 13, 2023 - Application Period ends, subject to City Council or City Manager  
 • July 13, 2023 - Application Period ends, subject to City Council or City Manager

**APPLICATION FORM**  
 Budget Request  
 Applicant Information  
 Name of Organization or Group: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City of Smithville: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief description of the program you are requesting funding for:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Amount requested: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*NOTE: The City of Smithville does not support requests that exceed \$5,000.

Specialty/Marketing Expenses (If applicable, list as separate items with contact of person and organization who you are contracted to, so that we might coordinate marketing budget):  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you!  
 Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City of Smithville, Texas  
 P.O. Box 440 • Smithville, TX 78957

# Discussion & Action: Budget Request



**Smithville TX Cultural District Project Budget**

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Add more lines to any category as necessary*

Budget Items	Justification (why is this item important to the project)	Unit Type (hours, months, sessions, items, etc.)	# Units	Per Unit Cost	Item Cost	Category Subtotal
<b>Supplies/General project</b>						
Supplies Category: Latex paint	This will be a painted mural	Cans	35.00	\$	375.00	
<b>Consultants (Admin/Artist Contract)</b>						
Item 1				\$	-	
Item 2				\$	-	
						\$ -
<b>Facility/Venue Costs</b>						
Facility 1				\$	-	
Facility 2				\$	-	
						\$ -
<b>Facility/Venue Subtotal</b>						
						\$ -
<b>Marketing/Promotion</b>						
Marketing & Promotion 1				\$	-	
Marketing & Promotion 2				\$	-	
						\$ -
<b>Marketing/Promotion Subtotal</b>						
						\$ -
<b>Program/Exhibit Costs</b>						
Item 1				\$	-	
Item 2				\$	-	
						\$ -
<b>Program/Exhibit Costs Subtotal</b>						
						\$ -
<b>Supplies and Materials</b>						
Item 1				\$	-	
Item 2				\$	-	
						\$ -
<b>Category Subtotal</b>						
						\$ -
<b>Other (Be Specific)</b>						
Other 1				\$	-	
Other 2				\$	-	
						\$ -
<b>Other Subtotal</b>						
						\$ -
<b>TOTAL Project Cost</b>					\$	-

# Discussion & Action: CEC Loop 230 Signage



Option	Applicant	Concept
1	Michelle Gardella / Ana Luev Ano-Young	"Unity In Bloom"
2	Heidi Little	"Hearts Across the Tracks"
3	Ashley Smith	"Hey Y'all"
4	Janus Lee	"The Future of Smithville"
5	RFP with local designers	Community provides ideas, designer works on product

