



NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY:

GONZALES COMMUNITY ACTION GRANT PROGRAM

Do you have a vision for making Gonzales a better place to live?

If so, apply today for a Gonzales Community Action Grant.

PURPOSE

The City of Gonzales is offering this program because it recognizes the values of its residents and community groups. The city believes that our community has great ideas for making Gonzales an even better place to live, play, learn, create, work, and serve. This program is an open invitation for civic-minded individuals to turn their creative community-improvement ideas into reality. By empowering caring community members to take positive action together, the city aims to improve the well-being of its residents and elevate the overall quality of life throughout Gonzales.

ELIGIBILITY: Who can apply?

Any Gonzales resident or Gonzales-based community group with a project or activity aimed at improving resident well-being and quality of life in alignment with the City Vision is eligible to apply.

City's Vision: Gonzales will continue to be a safe, clean, family-friendly community, diverse in its heritage, and committed to working collaboratively to preserve and retain its small-town charm.

To apply, a group must include two or more volunteers who are responsible for the group's leadership, with at least one of these leaders being a Gonzales resident. The following is a representative list of groups encouraged to apply, though other groups with community-improving project ideas are also welcome:

- Senior Citizens Groups: Organizations focused on addressing the interests, assets, and needs of the community's elders.
- Children and Youth Groups: Programs providing opportunities for character and leadership development, improved fitness and health, life skills acquisition, or other positive youth outcomes, as well as increased parent involvement and education.
- Art Groups: Collectives engaging residents in free art lessons, community art projects such as murals, and other visual, performing, or public art experiences and exhibits.
- Advocacy Groups: Organizations concentrating on neighborhood improvements like after-school programs, sidewalk enhancements, park amenities, street lighting, farmers' markets, and similar initiatives.
- Neighborhood or Apartment Associations, and Neighborhood Watches: Groups that foster resident leadership to identify and resolve neighborhood issues while enhancing community safety.

Ineligible groups include, but are not limited to, those with no direct involvement with Gonzales residents, as well as groups seeking funding for religious activities, academic research, debt reduction or legal settlements, campaign funding, business expenses, and scholarships.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

Grant awards will range from \$500 to \$5,000, with a total of \$30,000 available to support projects during the City's 2024-2025 Fiscal Year (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025). The funding for these grants comes from Measure 'K' Temporary Transaction and Use Tax, which was approved by 67% of Gonzales voters in November 2014. One key purpose of Measure 'K' is to: *"continue the development of innovative programs for economic growth and youth, adult and senior activities."*

GRANT TIMELINE

1. Applications Available:
August 9, 2024
Available at City Hall or on the City website:
(<https://gonzalesca.gov/CommunityActionGrants>)
2. Application Deadline:
September 6, 2024
3. Measure 'K' Oversight Committee (Subcommittee) Meeting to Evaluate Applications:
September 9 or 10, 2024 (time to be determined)
4. Measure 'K' Oversight Committee Meeting to Select and Recommend Grant Awards:
September 17, 2024
5. City Council Meeting to Consider and Award Grants:
October 7, 2024
6. Applicants Notified of Decision:
October 8, 2024
7. Mandatory Grantee Orientation & Funding Acceptance Agreement:
October 14-18, 2024
All successful applicants are required to attend an orientation to discuss grantee requirements. Individual meetings with groups will be scheduled.
8. Projects Implemented:
October 2024 – June 2025
9. Project Report Submission:
Within 2 weeks of project completion, granted groups must submit a project report.
10. Final Presentations:
Within 30 days of project completion, granted groups will make brief presentations to the Oversight Committee (July - August 2025).