



2023 Topeka DREAMS Neighborhood Improvement Initiatives Program Report

Citizen Advisory Council Funding Recommendations
City council presentation October 18, 2022



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2023 Topeka DREAMS Program Overview



Topeka DREAMS Neighborhood Improvement Initiatives Program (NIIP)

- ✓ **Neighborhood investment partnership** program between the City of Topeka and area Neighborhood Improvement Associations (NIAs).
- ✓ **Improved** community **collaboration**, neighborhood **planning**, public **infrastructure** and affordable **housing** and housing rehabilitation in low and moderate income (LMI) areas of Topeka.
- ✓ **Projects** that address current conditions of neighborhood **infrastructure**, **housing**, and other **quality of life** priorities.



3 Initiative Levels – DREAMS 1

One Intensive Care or At-Risk NIA Neighborhood

- ✓ **Development a Comprehensive Neighborhood Plan** that identifies goals for future land use, infrastructure, housing, and other quality of life improvements.
- ✓ **Up to \$1.4 million of the City's Capital Improvement Funding** for Infrastructure Improvements (streets, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, etc.)
- ✓ **Up to \$150,000 of Utilities Funding** for Utility Infrastructure Improvements (sanitary sewer, water mains, storm sewer lines, etc.)
- ✓ **Up to \$330,000 in Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding** for housing rehabilitation and potential affordable housing.

INFRASTRUCTURE



QUALITY OF LIFE



HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES



3 Initiative Levels – DREAMS 2

INFRASTRUCTURE



Projects In Up To Four NIA Neighborhoods

- ✓ Infrastructure improvements, enhanced accessibility, and neighborhood quality of life amenities.
- ✓ Up to \$1.4 million of the City's Capital Improvement Funding
- ✓ Additional \$150,000 of Utilities funding
- ✓ Grant awards range from \$100,000 up to \$1,000,000 per project up to available funding total.

HOUSING



Housing Rehab In Up To Four NIA Neighborhoods

- ✓ \$330,000 in HUD housing funds
- ✓ Major/minor housing rehab improvements
- ✓ First-come-first-serve basis by any income-eligible household in the selected neighborhoods.



3 Initiative Levels – DREAMS 3

COMMUNITY EVENTS



QUALITY OF LIFE



Various Small Neighborhood Projects

- ✓ Up to \$60,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.
- ✓ Up to \$140,000 of the City's General Obligation (GO) Bonds.
- ✓ Grant awards range from \$1,000 up to \$50,000 annually in this program.
- ✓ Priorities include community engagement, infrastructure improvements, accessibility, and neighborhood empowerment and pride.

ACCESSIBILITY



INFRASTRUCTURE



Staff Consultation & Application Process

Eligible applicants were invited to submit funding application(s) in May 2022.

New Pre-Application Project Consultation Process

Neighborhood leaders met with City Planning, Public Works, Housing, and Shawnee County Parks and Recreation staff to:

- ✓ discuss potential projects ideas
- ✓ ensure that projects met basic local, state, and federal regulations and requirements for funding eligibility and feasibility
- ✓ get project cost estimates and funding recommendations for projects



Staff Consultation Representatives

Consult Representatives included subject matter experts with knowledge of infrastructure and community needs for neighborhoods and public projects. Each member provided project requirements and eligibility reasoning for projects covered under their subject matter area of expertise.

2023 Topeka DREAMS Internal Review Representatives

Representative Name	Department/Organization
*LaToya Burnett	Community Engagement Division, City of Topeka – DREAMS Program Administrator & Process Facilitator
Lee Holmes	Public Works Engineering Division, City of Topeka
Tim Laurent	Park Planning & Development, Shawnee County Parks and Recreation
Braxton Copley	Utilities Department, City of Topeka
Renee Criqui	Planning Department (HUD/Environmental & Housing), City of Topeka
Bryson Risley	Neighborhood Planning Division, City of Topeka
Kim Thompson	Vice-Chair, Citizen Advisory Council – CAC Scoring Committee Chair



Application & Scoring Process

The Citizen Advisory Council (CAC)

- ✓ Provides recommendations to the City on community needs related to the allocation of local, state, federal and trust funds for the preparation of the Consolidated Action Plan.



CAC Members Authorized To Score Applications

- ✓ Eligible CAC members were provided with applications and staff recommendations
- ✓ Only members from non-applying neighborhoods in each of the three initiative and housing categories and only one score from each neighborhood per application
- ✓ Eight (8) eligible members submitted their recommendations
- ✓ The CAC voted on final funding recommendations for City Council consideration.



DREAMS 1 CAC Award Recommendation

Total Applications

3

Selected
Neighborhood

Historic
Holliday
Park

Total Available
Infrastructure Investment

\$1,550,000.00

Total Available Housing
Rehab Investment

\$330,000.00



Summary of DREAMS 1 Funding Schedule

Selection of one active NIA (Intensive Care or At-risk with block group of 2.0 health score) to receive up to \$1.4 million in infrastructure improvement investments + \$150,000 in Utilities Infrastructure Improvements + up to \$330,000 in housing rehab improvements/affordable housing investments.

2023

Neighborhood stakeholder & City
develop Comprehensive Plan



2024

- 1 Design of priority infrastructure & quality of life projects
- 2 Notify neighborhood residents of housing rehab funding available
- 3 accept/approve housing rehab applications



2025

- 1 Construction of priority infrastructure & quality of life projects
- 2 Housing rehab construction



DREAMS 2 Housing CAC Award Recommendation

Total Applications

2

**Selected
Neighborhoods**

Hi-Crest

**Total Available
Infrastructure Investment**

\$330,000.00

Historic Holliday Park was the second neighborhood that applied for housing funds. They were not recommended for funding due to receiving the recommendation for the DREAMS 1 Award.

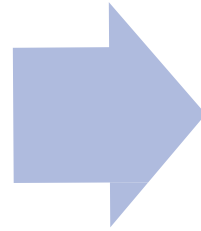


Summary of DREAMS 2 Housing Schedule

\$330,000 in HUD housing funds may be divided and awarded to up to four LMI neighborhoods. These housing funds will be awarded for major/minor housing rehab improvements on a first-come-first-serve basis by any income-eligible household in the selected neighborhoods.

2023

- 1 Notify neighborhood residents of housing rehab funding available
- 2 Accept/approve applications

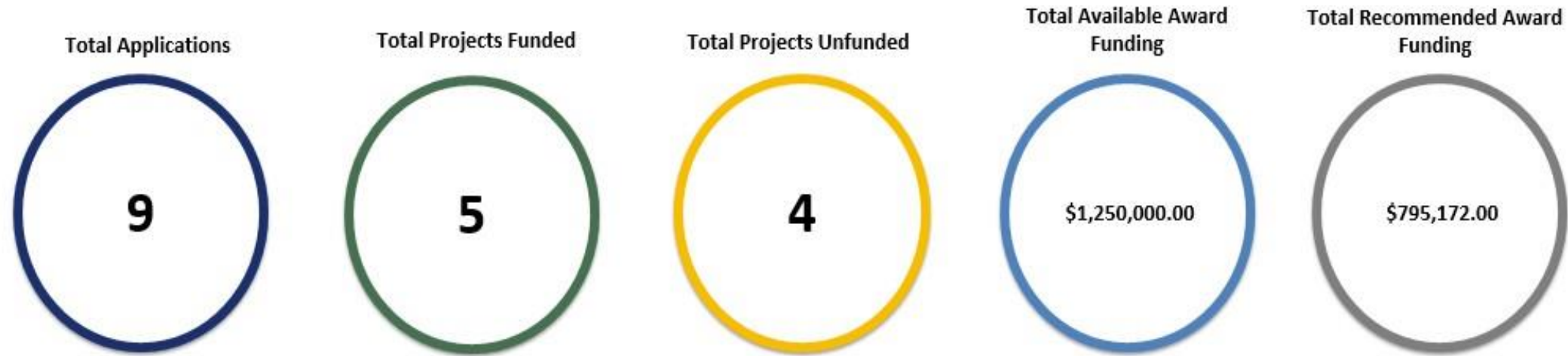


2024

2 Housing rehab construction



DREAMS 2 CAC Project Award Recommendation



Historic Old Town - Completions of Washburn/Lane Lighting \$77,000.00

Hi-Crest - SE 31st St.; Adams to Irvingham - Sidewalks/Curb/Gutter Study \$100,000.00

Valley Park- SW Randolph; sidewalk connecting to Shunga Trail \$135,000.00

Central Highland Park - Hillcrest Pool Slide \$150,000.00

Chesney Park - Alley Replacement; Buchanan & Lincoln - 18th- 19th \$333,172.00

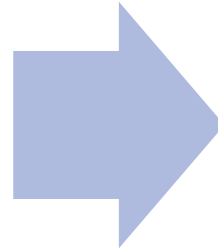


Summary of DREAMS 2 Funding Schedule

Selection of four NIAs to receive between \$100,000 up to \$1,000,000 each in infrastructure improvement investments (total award available including finance \$1.4 million). \$150,000 of Utilities funding for public infrastructure improvements will be divided and invested into the four neighborhoods

2023

Design of projects



2024

Construction of
projects



DREAMS 3 Projects CAC Award Recommendations



Historic North Topeka East - Three Sisters of NOTO Mural Sculpture \$6,600.00
Historic North Topeka East - Veteran's Park Art Walk and Development \$50,000.00
Historic North Topeka East - Entry Way Signs \$7,500.00
Historic North Topeka East - Veteran's Park Basketball Court \$6,500.00
Jefferson Square - Stone Monument Signs \$40,000.00
Historic Old Town - 8th & Buchanan Repairs \$26,250.00
Hi-Crest - School Crossing Light - 35th & Adams \$25,000.00
Historic Old Town - Bethany Community Garden; 8th & Polk \$11,000.00
Jefferson Square - Woodall Park Picnic Area \$9,000.00
Highland Acres - School Bus Shelters \$15,000.00



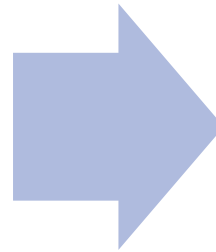
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2023

1 Complete all programs, events, activities

2 Design & construction of infrastructure and installation projects



2024

Final Completion of Infrastructure and Installation Projects

