

# CULTURAL SPACES

## CAPITAL SUPPORT FUND



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## Questions and Responses

Q: Can projects be packaged and submitted, or do they need to be submitted individually?

A: It is up to you whether to package projects for the application. Bear in mind that awards will be between \$50,000 and \$200,000 and that the City will consider an organization's capacity to execute a project.

Q: Are matching funds necessary for the project?

A: They are not necessary, but the review committee looks favorably on matching funds.

Q: Is this a loan?

A: No.

Q: My organization is not a non-profit. Can we apply through a fiscal sponsor that is a non-profit?

A: No, the organization that owns or leases the space and has primary responsibility for capital improvements must be a non-profit.

Q: We want to build a virtual classroom and studio. Is that eligible? We are in a city-owned building with a 20-year lease.

A: No, the space itself must be open to the general public.

Q: Our target would be health and fitness curriculum.

A: Health and fitness-focused organizations are not eligible.

Q: My organization previously received GO bonds for a project, and hoped to raise private funds to be able to complete the project. We were unable to raise private funds. Can we apply for the balance of the project costs in this current round?

A: Yes, you can apply. Please note that the review committee looks favorably on matching funds.

Q: My organization has current unspent bond funding. Can we apply for additional funding (for a new project)?

A: Yes, you can apply. The City and review panel will consider the organization's expenditure of previous bonds, so you may wish to explain why previous allocations are unspent in your application.

Q: The capital project criteria state that repairs or maintenance costing less than \$100,000 are not eligible. Can I apply for \$50,000 towards a maintenance project (elevator repair) if the total cost will be over \$100,000?

A: Yes. The thresholds are related to the overall cost of the project; however we will not make awards for less than \$50,000.

Q: Are organizations outside of designated Arts & Entertainment Districts eligible?

A: Yes, if they are a museum, theater, or gallery.

Q: What if my organization is just outside of an Arts & Entertainment District boundary?

A: If outside of an Arts & Entertainment District, the venue must be a museum, gallery, or theater.

Q: Does my church that hosts concerts or arts events qualify?

A: No, the primary purpose of the space must be a museum, theater, or gallery (or other arts and cultural venue if within an Arts & Entertainment District).

Q: Can these funds be used for a new capital development (erecting a new building)?

A: Yes, however bear in mind that the maximum award is \$200,000 and the typical award is \$50,000-\$100,000.

Q: What is the definition of equity?

A: The City defines equity as closing gaps in outcomes based on race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, and income. Applicants can provide an alternative definition of equity and explain how their project aligns with that definition as well.

Q: Are the evaluation criteria weighted?

A: No.

Q: Can you be awarded, get a loan and repay that?

A: No, these funds cannot be used to repay loans or liens.

Q: Can you request funds for just a single year?

A: Yes.

Q: Are design and pre-development costs eligible?

A: They are eligible as part of the project cost. We would not fund a request for only design and pre-development.

Q: Does the \$1 million/year overall represent a change from how much has been allocated to the GO bond process in the past?

A: This is approximately the same amount as was awarded in FY20 and FY21, and in FY23 and FY24.

Q: Does an organization's operating budget size matter for the selection committee?

A: Organizations should be able to demonstrate they have a sustainable operating budget. However, there isn't a preference for large or small organizations.

Q: Most organizations, particularly smaller ones, are not able advance payment and then seek reimbursement from the GO bond. Are there any alternatives?

A: Unfortunately, there aren't other alternatives.

Q: We are a community-based organization that also holds tours and has a small museum. But being a museum is not our primary purpose. Can we apply?

A: You could apply for improvements to the museum space.

Q: The organization that runs the museum is separate from the organization that owns the building and has primary responsibility for capital improvements. Can we still apply?

A: No.

Q: Can an outdoor space, such as a public square with statues and monuments, apply?

A: No.