

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 2014 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
Community Grants Report	Resolution Ordinance Motion ✓ Discussion Only	Dave Fieldman Village Manager

SYNOPSIS

At the September 9, 2014 meeting, under New Business, Mayor Tully requested staff to prepare a report on the Community Grants Commission that would facilitate Council discussion of re-instating the community grants program.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

The goals for 2011-2018 include *Exceptional Municipal Services*.

FISCAL IMPACT

If the Council were to fund community grants in the FY15 budget, the cost of the program would be \$68,800 (8% of the estimated hotel tax revenue of \$860,000). Funding the program at this level without making other changes to the budget would increase General Fund expenses by \$68,800.

RECOMMENDATION

Action at the discretion of the Village Council.

BACKGROUND

The Community Grants Program exists to provide, on a discretionary basis, under the sole discretion of the Downers Grove Village Council, monetary grants to not-for-profit organizations to promote, conduct or sponsor community oriented activities that contribute to the quality of life for Village residents. The Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Village Council, appoints the seven members on this Board, who serve three-year terms and one student member who serves a one-year term.

On December 21, 2004, Village Council passed an ordinance whereby the amount of funds for the Downers Grove Community Grants Program would be established on an annual basis through the normal budgeting process and shall equal eight percent (8%) of the Downers Grove Hotel Tax generated in the fiscal year preceding the budget year or \$48,000, whichever is greater. The amount budgeted shall be exclusive of any donations. The Community Grants Commission develops criteria for use as guidelines in the preparation and review of grant requests. Priority is typically given to projects that include the following criteria:

- Celebrate and contribute to the cultural arts in the community
- Contribute to the positive image of the Village
- Introduce new events or activities to Downers Grove
- Demonstrate sound management practices by their sponsors
- Indicate sources of funding in addition to the Village grant request
- Attract visitors to Downers Grove
- Provide activities open to the public
- Demonstrate the potential to become financially self-sustaining

- Take place in Downers Grove

In 2010, the Village suspended the community grants program as part of the restructuring of the General Fund.

Impact on the Proposed FY15 Budget

If the Council were to fund community grants in the FY15 budget, the cost of the program would be \$68,800 (8% of the estimated hotel tax revenue of \$860,000). Funding the program at this level without making other changes to the budget would increase General Fund expenses by \$68,800.

*Table 1
Impact on Proposed FY15 General Fund Budget*

	Proposed FY15 GF Budget	FY15 GF Budget with Community Grants Funding
Revenues	44,824,624	44,824,624
Expenses	44,822,262	44,891,062
Change in Fund Balance	2,362	(66,438)

Impact on the FY14 Budget

If the Village had funded the community grants program in FY14, the cost of the program would have been \$68,800 (8% of the estimated hotel tax revenue of \$860,000).

Funding History

From 2005 to 2009, the Village awarded nearly \$335,000 in grant funding to 24 entities.

*Table 2
Community Grants Funding, 2005-2009*

Year	Amount Awarded	Number of Entities Receiving Funds
2009	\$79,519	17
2008	\$79,200	15
2007	\$70,089	20
2006	\$43,504	17
2005	\$62,619	20

*Table 3
Funding by Recipient, 2005-2009*

Recipient	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total
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A.A.U.W.	2,000	2,000	--	--	--	4,000
DG Choral Society	10,000	6,000	12,000	15,000	15,000	58,000
DG Concert Association	10,000	4,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	47,000
DGSHS Band Boosters	2,100	3,200	--	6,500	5,000	16,800
Grove Players	4,100	5,000	6,000	7,920	8,300	31,320
Midwest Ballet Theater	6,200	6,000	4,400	7,000	8,400	32,000
New World Repertory Theater	4,000	5,000	5,500	6,000	6,800	27,300
Our Town Productions	4,000	-	4,500	--	--	8,500
West Town Chorus	2,229	2,300	3,489	6,230	5,000	19,248
Senior Suburban Orchestra	2,000	--	3,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
DG Kiwanis	600	--	600	700	500	2,400
DG Rotary	1,000	1,500	1,500	2,000	1,819	7,819
Squires of Downers Grove	400	400	400	--	--	1,200
West Suburban Humane Soc	2,000	2,000	2,000	3,000	2,000	11,000
YMCA	2,100	1,700	1,700	--	--	5,500
Downtown Management	3,000	3,000	6,000	3,500	3,000	18,500
Friends of the Library	500	500	500	500	400	2,400
DG Junior Woman's Club	400	400	500	--	--	1,300
Maple Hill Recreation Corp	400	--	--	--	--	400
VOX Caelestis	--	504	--	--	--	504
DG Area American Assoc of Women	--	--	--	3,350	3,000	6,350
DG Area Newcomers	--	--	--	1,500	1,400	2,900
SEASPAR	--	--	--	--	1,400	1,400
After Hours Film Society	--	--	--	--	1,500	1,500
	62,619	43,504	70,089	79,200	79,519	334,931