

ORDINANCE NO. 2021 - 096

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR FUNDING OF TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT PROGRAM (NGP) TO ALLOW FOR COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT/ENGAGEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Kent City Council authorized funding for the Neighborhood Grant Program (NGP) in 2014 as part of the City's efforts to provide programming initiatives that could assist with improving the City's various neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the annual NGP funding allocation has been used to support successful neighborhood engagement and enhancement programs, but certain aspects of the NGP have not been fully utilized; and

WHEREAS, Council is recommending revisions to the program that will promote greater utilization of the NGP in residential neighborhoods by providing assistance to allow for community enrichment engagement as well as continuing to assist income eligible homeowners with Exterior Property Maintenance Code violations who cannot afford to complete the necessary corrections.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Kent, Portage County, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. Kent City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager, or his designee, to develop guidelines for the funding of the NGP at fifty percent (50%) between the subset of Community enrichment/engagement and assisting with code violations from now until the end of 2022 and it will be used as follows.

- a) An anticipated 50% (\$3,500) will be used to support resident-developed neighborhood engagement and neighborhood enhancement projects. Funding per project not to exceed \$1,000 and will be issued on a reimbursement basis for eligible costs in accordance with the program requirements listed in the application and grant award agreement.
- b) An anticipated 50% (\$3,500) will be administered by the Community Development Department staff to assist income eligible homeowners with addressing property maintenance code violations. Staff will act as the fiscal agent for these property owners to secure quotes, schedule the work, and pay for the services and materials directly.
- c) The Community Development Department staff has the discretion to apply NGP appropriated funding in excess of the \$3,500 to assist with correcting property maintenance violations when funding is available and when the need is warranted for health and safety reasons.

SECTION 2. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council, and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the residents of this City, for which reason and other reasons manifest to this Council this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force immediately after passage.

PASSED: September 15, 2021
Date

J. Fiala
Jerry T. Fiala
Mayor and President of Council

EFFECTIVE: September 15, 2021
Date

ATTEST: Amy Wilkens
Amy Wilkens
Clerk of Council

I, AMY WILKENS, CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF KENT, COUNTY OF PORTAGE, AND STATE OF OHIO, AND IN WHOSE CUSTODY THE ORIGINAL FILES AND RECORDS OF SAID COUNCIL ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OHIO, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF *ORDINANCE No. 2021-096*, ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT ON September 15, 2021.

(SEAL)

Amy Wilkens
AMY WILKENS
CLERK OF COUNCIL