



Short-term demonstration project concept outline:

COMMUNITY VISION: Community Action Grants

Description: A key success to visionPDX was granting funds to the community for engagement purposes. The Community Action Grants will provide seed resources for community organizations to take action on the vision. Criteria will be developed to set forward clear expectations for the funds and accountability for responsiveness to the Vision into Action Coalition. The funds will be matched by community organizations and will be one time in nature. The grants will be designed to motivate new action in response to the visions main ideas, values and challenges.

Basis in Vision:

A clear message during the vision project was “involve us.” The engagement grants were effective in leveraging community action and motivated groups to try new engagement methods and inspired new partnerships. While community members expressed support for the Bureau of Planning’s efforts to take vision into action through the Portland Plan, they clearly expressed a need for the city to maintain contact with the public and provide genuine ways for the public to be involved. A core value of the vision is: **Community Connectedness**. Portlanders expressed a strong sense of connection to their communities and a value for the local and small scale political environment. Community based decision making was a repeated priority. The grants are the most direct way to respond to local and community based action.

How does it work?

The grant program will be coordinated by staff at the Bureau of Planning coordinating the Vision into Action Coalition. The funds will be administered by the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. Grant criteria will be determined by a transition team of visionPDX volunteers and BOP Portland Plan staff.

Short-term demonstration project criteria:

Investment by City	Public/private partnership	Community involvement / impact
Funding request for \$250,000 for the grant program. Funding request for \$125,000 for 2 staff who will develop and staff the Vision into Action Coalition (see Resolution) and manage the grant program.	Community organizations that apply for funds will be required to match the city requested funds; percentage to be determined.	Change and outcome measurement will be criteria for grant funding. The scope of impact will vary based on successful grant applications. An example of impact may include: increased access to basic needs for a previously underrepresented group in a specific neighborhood.