

TENANT CONNECTION HANDBOOK

Improving community in urban market rate apartment complexes

- The Networked
- Apartment Project



Community Projects



How To



Resources

Contents

INTRO

x

COMMUNITY PROJECT STORIES

XX

HOW TO:

Types of projects you can start in your apartment community

XX

- 1.1 Upgrade your courtyard into usable space
- 1.2 Organize regular community events
- 1.3 Put up a bulletin board
- 1.4 Personalize your entryway
- 1.5 Create seating in communal spaces

Make your goal a community goal

XX

- 2.1 Throw an event
- 2.2 Knock on doors
- 2.3 Create an apartment community blog space
- 2.4 Create an apartment website
- 2.5 Use existing community space to make more

Write it up

XX

- 3.1 Be specific about what you plan to do
- 3.2 Address how it will create a positive effect for those living on your apartments
- 3.3 Look up similar projects and reference them

Outside Funding

XX

- 4.1 Contact your local neighborhood association
- 4.2 Find local activist groups that could be involved
- 4.3 Contact your local University
- 4.4 Contact local government organizations
- 4.5 Get donations from local businesses
- 4.6 Talk to property owners

Challenges and Troubleshooting

XX

- 5.1 No Community Space
- 5.2 Approaching Your Landlord
- 5.3 Concerned Neighbor

Resources

XX

- Portland Neighborhood Associations
- Helpful Portland Phone Numbers
- Grant Opportunities

Icons to look for:

- ✓ Tips (extra helpful facts)
- ✗ Warning! (connects to a challenges issue)
- 🔄 Remember (connects to a previously stated fact)



Intro

The design of modern cities has often created a pockets of disconnected individuals. Cities create large areas of high population without defined zones. The age of technology creates boundaries between individuals by eliminated the need for direct human interaction in the process of acquiring goods and information. Proximity of the home to public social gathering spaces becomes larger and connection to resources as a pedestrian lessens. High density living in the city also frequently lacks a gradient between what is private and what is public space.

These qualities deny the sense of place created through knowing ones neighbors. This can hinder a feeling of safety, and sense of belonging. These changes to the perception of our surroundings can create a negative impact to an individuals mental health. This can also hinder social engagement consequently having a negative impact on social involvement in public policy.

As urban cities densify, opportunities to respond to the new constraints arise and are not always recognized and valued during development. These types of living situations exist in the urban context and that the tenants are restrained by their income and proximity to their jobs.

At the end of each “How To” sub section, we have included a worksheet to help you figure out what out of that section applies to your personal situation and whether or not any slight adjustments can be made to let a particularly attractive approach work for you.



Community Project Stories

The following are projects that were initiated internally by interested community members. These projects are good idea starters for you as you look for what project will fit your apartment community. Each of these have been selected based on the scale of an apartment building. Not every one is directly applicable to the individual circumstances of your apartment building, but each story stimulates the imagination and will help lead you to developing an appropriate approach to meeting your apartment's community building needs.

The following factors play into the ease of developing the project:

- Needs of the community
- Number of interested individuals
- Local businesses investments
- City funding
- Available space
- Inherent skills of community members





Roseland neighborhood of Chicago

Location:
Roseland neighborhood of Chicago

Who it serves:
Teenage girls from the Roseland neighborhood of Chicago

Issue:
That section of Roseland along 103rd Street and you realize the problems are vast. Boarded-up homes. Shuttered businesses. Aimless folk hanging out on the corners. Crime. The playground is being built on a vacant lot that's squished between two storefront churches. Next door to one of them is a high-traffic liquor store, and across the street is a much bigger open-air lot, occupied by vagrants and loiterers.

Implementation:
This two week intensive design workshop for teenage girls from the Roseland neighborhood of Chicago empowers them to find and help solve problems in their community through science and design thinking. This 'doing' camp preferences action over simulation, growing from the firm beliefs that young adults are both some of our most important agents of change in their communities and that creating opportunities for them to directly change or impact of the world around them are critical for helping them grow into powerful leaders. It will not only generate important information, data, and ideas for the new community center but will also start growing a cadre of young female community design leaders in Roseland, and serve as a pilot project to help us design innovative ongoing STEM + community design leadership programming for the young women as they transform a vacant lot into a play space.

Relevance to you:
If the residents of the Brigadoon want to build something and we are able to find a space to do so, this approach could guide us.

Meet the Neighbors" Website

PROJECT EXAMPLES

Location: Online

Who it serves:

Meet The Neighbors is an endeavor to introduce people who live in the same building or neighborhood. They combine the communication tools of the internet with real-life, local action to help form relationships of all kinds between actual, physical neighbors. The underlying assumption is that people will benefit in every way possible from knowing and being connected to their neighbors.

Issue:

It's so common in urban environments that many of us don't even know the people who live next door. Your neighbor relationships are reduced to nodding in the hall and having brief conversations about the weather in the elevator. Meet The Neighbors aims to remove the proverbial walls that keep neighbors from speaking. It is our hope that all manner of relationships will develop between people who live right near each other. You don't need to go across town to find community - you can have it right at home.

Implementation:

How does Meet The Neighbors work?

- We combine all the proven communications tools of the internet with real, local action taken by our members.
- We provide you with these tools:
- A central home page, accessible only by you and your neighbors
- Private Messaging features
- A public Message Board just for your building
- Event Planning tools to organize gatherings & RSVP
- Polling features so you can all vote on stuff
- Official MTN gatherings in your neighborhood, with other local buildings
- Advice and support on how to build community (we have lots of experience!)
- Security & Privacy that protects your identity

Relevance to you:

This is an example of an online community building tool that could be appropriate for our project if there are no physical changes allowed to be made to our site.



<http://www.meettheneighbors.org/index.html>



Location:
Woodlawn neighborhood of Chicago

Who it serves:
Woodlawn neighborhood residents

Issue:
Public Space Design Competition was created to create a dialogue about open space and how design can be the catalyst for the creation of meaningful and joyful places that facilitate community engagement and growth. The design competition challenged designers to rethink public space with a temporary installation. Through these small acts, you can repurpose public space to be more universally accessible, inclusive, age friendly, and a builder of community.

Implementation:
Installed under a strict \$1,000 budget, the Woodlawn installation aims to convert a 40-year old inactive concrete plaza into a safe, positive, vital place by adding a running track around the space, outlines for yoga mats, hopscotch, and footprints for dance. The inclusive design is for all ages and aims to inspire neighbors and passersby to move together to promote dialogue about public space and public health, in line with ACTIVATE!'s mission to reinvent public space for greater community connectivity in Chicago.

Relevance to you:
If your landlord is on board for you to adjust your parking lot or there is a nearby empty lot that you are able to get permission to paint on, you can quickly and cheaply create an active and fun space that will inspire group activities.



Woodlawn neighborhood of Chicago

Location: Logan Square, Chicago, Il.

Who it serves:

PARK(ing) Day has effectively re-valued the metered parking space as an important part of the commons - a site for generosity, expression, socializing and play. And although temporary, PARK(ing) Day has inspired direct participation in the civic processes that permanently alter the urban landscape. They saw an opportunity to take simple materials on empty land to strengthen a community. A place to laugh with friends, discuss the neighborhood, play in idyllic surroundings, gather in guarded gardens, and grow a humble harvest. It is a catalyst for change.

Issue:

As part of an annual grassroots event called PARK(ing) Day, Architecture for Humanity Chicago is changing parking spaces in Logan Square into a venue for public activity. The installation featured street furniture modules designed by MAS Studio. Their design Cut. Join. Play. was constructed for this public installation where several events took place, including a yoga demonstration, script readings, lawn games, and an evening film screening.

Implementation:

- Start with a flat, lifeless lot or parking space and some plywood of similar quality.
- Select the size of the desired installation, from XS to XL, the possibilities are endless.
- Cut plywood into simple geometric shapes according to the patterns provided.
- Join the pieces together with a metal angle after matching up the edges with equal dimensions. As the volumes aggregate, a landscape begins to form.
- Fill the volumes with grass, herbs, flowers, recycling containers, light – life!
- When summer fades, don't be disappointed. We'll take the plants to a deserving home or community garden. We'll make sure your recyclables move on to serve new purposes.

Relevance to you:

If you are not able to petition your landlord to allow you to make changes to your apartment complex you can apply for a permit through your city to create a "parklet" on your street.



Parklet - Logan Square, Chicago, Il.

PROJECT EXAMPLES

The City Repair Project



Woodlawn neighborhood of Chicago

Location:

Several sites mostly concentrated in inner SE Portland, OR.

Who it serves:

The city repair project is an ongoing project based out of SE Portland that serves to create ties in the between community members in the areas surrounding the project sites.

Issue:

City Repair began with the idea that localization of culture, economy, and decision-making is a necessary foundation of sustainability. By reclaiming urban spaces to create community-oriented places, they plant the seeds for greater neighborhood communication, empower communities, and nurture local culture.

PROJECT EXAMPLES

Implementation:

Their projects include the annual Village Building Convergence, where people gather at neighborhood sites throughout Portland to engage in intersection repair, natural building, and other forms of placemaking. They also produce Portland's Earth Day event. Throughout the year they educate the community with workshops on all forms of sustainability and offer the placemaking guidebook and one-on-one consulting for those who want to repair their own neighborhood.

Relevance to you:

This is an example of an organization out there that has worked on this scale of project and can help you plan out your project. The City Repair Project utilizes found local materials, builds projects that are intended to connect community members, and engages community members in the design and building process every step of the way. The work they do is intrinsically part of the community they build in, making them an invaluable reference.



Parklet - Logan Square, Chicago, IL.

How To

You may have selected your apartment based on your income or proximity to your jobs. The target audience for this book are rental tenants in isolated, market rate apartment buildings. The greatest challenge we face is changing the perception that apartment tenants do not have a right to outdoor space and that the boundaries dictated by their floor plan.

This is not to say that a tenant should have the right to indiscriminately destroy private property, but property owners who have rental properties which isolate their tenants from contact can work with tenants to provide opportunities for engaging with their communities.

This section of your guidebook is intended to walk you through

Types of projects you can start in your apartment community:

- Upgrade your courtyard into usable space
- Organize regular community events
- Put up a bulletin board
- Personalize your entryway
- Create seating in communal spaces



Value of Section 1

Many apartments have courtyard areas that are shared by the tenants but are not regularly used. One of the reasons for this is that these areas often have little or no seating and what is there is not organized for any type of social gathering. Making this space more usable can create a more social atmosphere at your apartment complex.



1.1 Upgrade Your Courtyard Into Usable Space

Many apartments have courtyard areas that are shared by the tenants but are not regularly used. One of the reasons for this is that these areas often have little or no seating and what is there is not organized for any type of social gathering. Making this space more usable can create a more social atmosphere at your apartment complex.

Ways to enhance your courtyard

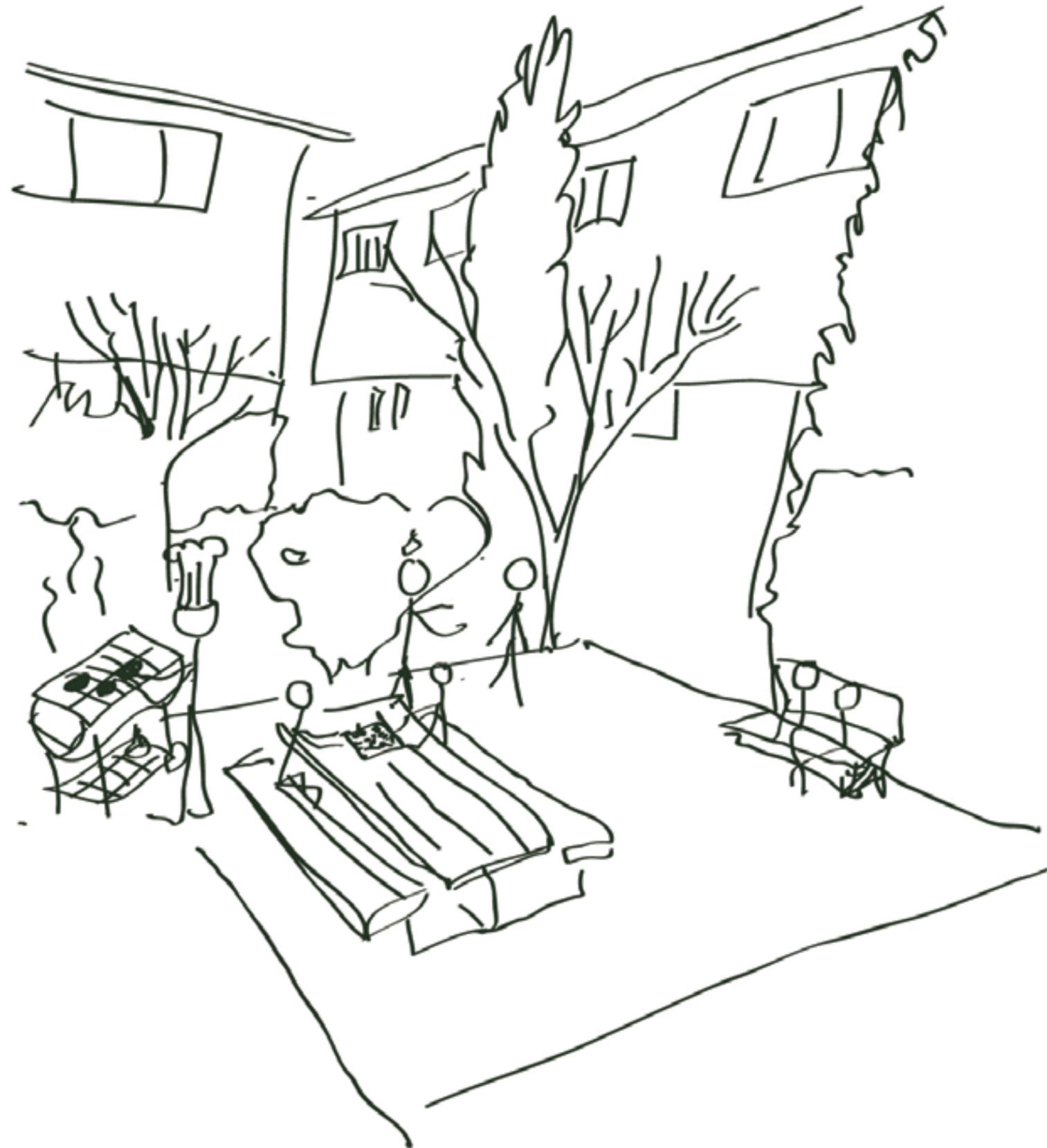
- Bring in a BBQ
Why have a BBQ tucked in a tiny private back patio when you can utilize more space for friends and welcome your neighbors for socialization
- Add tables and chairs or a picnic table.
Take out bushes if you need to. Creating a space where people can socialize in a circle and possibly use a table to eat at or play a game can increase public use of social spaces.
- Community garden space
Community garden space creates opportunities for producing your own food and a shared activity between house mates.

1.2 Organize Regular Community Events

Hosting regular community events at your apartments can reinforce ties between tenants and promote better awareness of the people who live around you.

Types of events

- Potluck/BBQ
Potluck BBQ's are great because they are warm weather events and are normally held outside, this means that they can be held at apartment complexes that do not have an indoor community area
- Holiday event
Celebrating a holiday event as a community can be great. This is an easy thing to do for apartments that have indoor community space already established. If you don't worry you can there are other spaces you could use. If you have a lobby space at your apartments, talk to the property owner about using it. Also, local business are often eager to create stronger ties to their surrounding businesses and will likely be interested in having you through your event there.
- Sports event
If you have a lot of people who like to watch sports events at your apartments this could also be a great opportunity to create a social gathering. If you have a sports bar or pub near by they often make a great place to gather people together for sports events.



HOW TO

1.3 Put Up A Bulletin Board

Bulletin board can help to promote interaction between tenants. Even the simple connection of finding someone to buy your microwave, walk your dog, or to advertise baby sitting services can help people get to know each other. These spaces are also helpful in getting the word out about other social activities.

- Places that are great for Community Bulletin boards.
- In an established shared space
- Laundry rooms
- At a bus stop used by residents
- In the apartment lobby
- In an apartment elevator



1.4 Personalize Your Entryway

Rows of indistinct doors is common place with apartment buildings. Personalizing the space outside your door can help to create a community recognized as having diversity and distinguishes your space as belonging to you.

- Paint your door
- Decorate with wind chimes or door decorations
- Put out plants
- Have a personalized door mat

Projects you can start in your community..continued

1.5 Create Seating in Communal Spaces

Creating seating in public spaces can increase engagement between tenants

Put a chair or bench outside your door

- Create seating areas along walkways
- Create a social area in an already shared space like in your laundry room



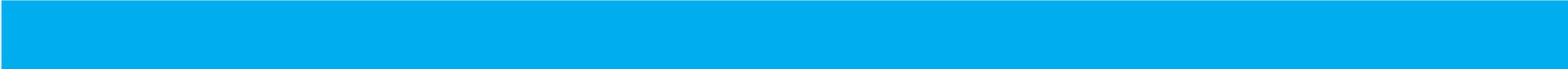
Section 1 Worksheet

Have you seen projects in your city that you are interested in replicating?

Try finding the initiators of the project on the internet or ask residents in the area how the projects was started. Who worked on this project?

Did this project require outside funding?

If it is an elaborate project, do you see a way that the scale of the project can be changed to fit your apartment?



Value of this Section 2

Getting support from other apartment residents is an important and exciting step in



2.1 Throw An Event

Throwing an event is a great way to create initial connections between people

2.2 Knock On Doors

Going around door to door can help create an initial introduction of yourself to your neighbors

2.3 Create An Apartment Community Blog Space

Create a blogspot and invite your neighbors to be editors of the blog focusing the content on matters of the apartment and neighborhood. Posts can be profiles of residents or projects that residents are involved in.

2.4 Create An Apartment Website

Having a website can be a way of providing a resource for current residents to refer to. A blog can be added as a page to the website.



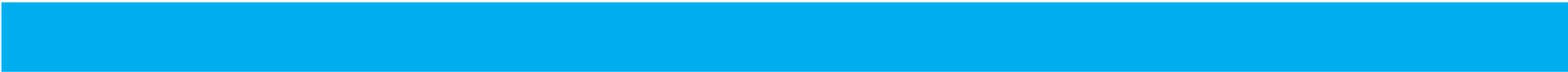
Section 2 Worksheet

Who in your apartment seems the most social, chatting with other neighbors in the parking lot?

Do you already have a bulletin board or community website you can revamp?

Is there anyone in your apartment who has graphic design or website building skills?

If it is an elaborate project, do you see a way that the scale of the project can be changed to fit your apartment?



Value of this Section 3

When you are trying to find support and funding for your project it is important to have a clear plan. Even the best ideas will fail to receive community support if they are not easily understood.

Multnomah County Library's Nonprofit Resource Center provides access to grantmaker directories, books on nonprofit management, fund raising and proposal writing and access to The Foundation Directory Online and Foundation Grants to Individuals.

3.1 Be Specific About What You Plan To Do

Make sure you identify who you are

- Letting people know up front who you are and who you represent helps give donors and volunteers an idea of who they are supporting

Make sure your goals are clear

- Simplify what you are trying to accomplish as much as possible. This will help give a clear picture to people you are approaching with your idea.

Make sure your process is clear

- Be clear about the process required for your project and the role you would like donors and volunteers to take.

3.2 Who Are You Helping?

Address how it will create a positive effect for those living on your apartments. Make sure that you are being inclusive of everyone possible who this project can include. An unhappy neighbor who does not feel included can halt your progress, while a concerned neighbor who feels they have been heard may have input or skills that can further your project.

3.3 Look Up Similar Projects And Reference Them

Looking online (or at the beginning of this book) and finding projects that look appealing and researching how those projects were executed will help you to understand the steps you need to take to get these done and the resources they drew from to complete the project. If you want to know more about how they put their project together, you should try contacting them. Most project organizers will be happy to talk with you about their work as they put a lot of effort into making it successful and are proud.

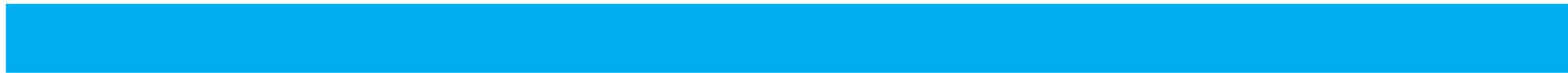


Section 3 Worksheet

Does anyone in your apartment have experience with grant writing?

Is there a library in your neighborhood who could help you with grant writing?

Have you looked on the internet for guidelines for grant writing?



Value of this Section 4

There are several ways of finding funding for your community building project. Do not let money be a deterrent! While we recommend gathering money from interested parties in your community or getting your landlord to fund the project, there are alternative, outside sources of funding that are available to you.

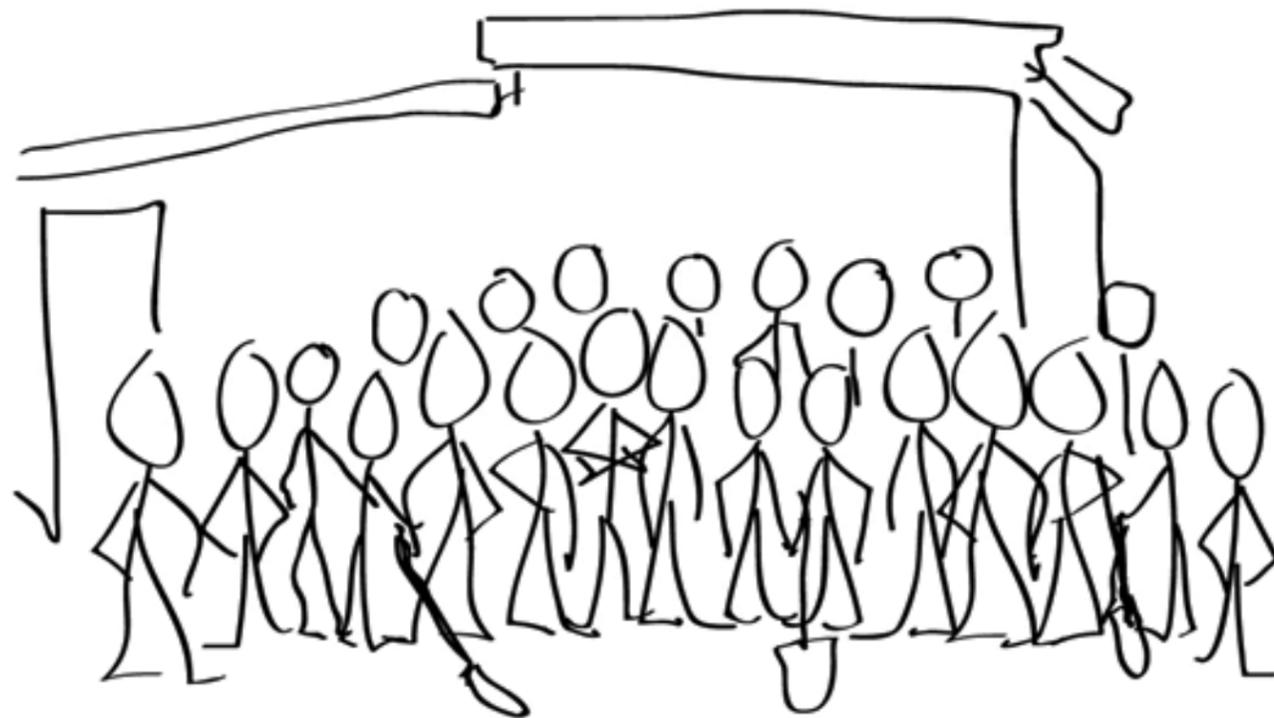
Better yet, choose a project with little to no funding needed!

4.1 Contact Your Local Neighborhood Association

Neighborhood associations often have some sort of funding from the city. While they may have been requested for specific projects and those funds may already be allocated, you can propose a project to the board and they may be able to get behind your project if it is presented in a way that demonstrates the value to the larger community.

4.2 Find Local Activist Groups That Could Be Involved

There are some groups who have formed with the mission of grassroots community engagement. Contact them and see if what they have to offer is in line with your own goals for your community. They will likely be excited to hear from community members and might want to get involved!



4.3 Contact Your Local University

Universities often has a community and civic engagement agenda built into their mission. Go to your local universities website, look at their academic departments, and send an email to the departments which seem the most suited to your needs. Make an inquiry into whether or not they would be the appropriate person to contact or if they could forward your email to another staff member who they think may be able to help you better. This may be an opportunity for a student or group of students to apply some of their newly acquired skills in the real world. You may be doing them a favor and get their help for free!

Students may also be able to use their resources at their school to help with grant writing and make connections with experts.

HOW TO

4.4 Contact local government organizations

Your city government has grants available to organized community projects. The City of Portland runs the Community Watershed Stewardship Program which CWSP offers grants of up to \$10,000 for watershed health projects. Grant recipients can spend up to \$3,000 on professional services, including compensation for project coordinators, contracted services, and stipends for participating youth. An additional \$2,000 may be spent on youth stipends. Recipients typically also spend grant funds on native plants, soil amendments, tools, and other materials.



4.5 Get Donations From Local Businesses

Walk or call around to the local businesses in your area. You would be surprised at how many are interested in involving themselves in community efforts. They benefit from the publicity as well.



Find resources to help fund your project..continued

4.6 Talk To Property Owners

Your landlord may be willing and even excited to see people putting thought and energy into their living situation. It benefits the landlord to have long term tenants who are invested in their apartment and making it a better, more attractive place to live.



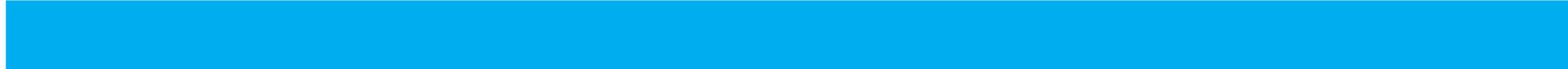
Section 4 Worksheet

Are any of your local businesses owned by residents of the neighborhood?

Do you have a good relationship with the property manager?

Are you a part of your local neighborhood association?

Have you admired any other small scale projects in the city? Who funded them?



Value of this Section 5

During the process of engaging your apartment community in a project you may run into some roadblocks. In this section are suggestions on how to approach or overcome these common problems.

6.1 No Community Space On Property

- Is there street space near by you can use
- Is there park space near by?
- Is there a local hub?
- Can you create little nodes instead of a large community space?

6.2 Approaching Your Property Manager

Make sure your issue is perceived as a community issue. i.e. establish community support before addressing your landlord. You may have an onsite property manager as opposed to the landlord living onsite. Depending on your relationship with the property manager and their level of involvement with the apartment complex, you may want to approach the landlord instead.

6.3 Concerned Neighbor

Address how the project might benefit them

- Include them in the decision making process and make sure their ideas are included
- Talk possible solutions to their concerns that will not shut down your project

Example issues:

- Neighbor doesn't like the aesthetics of the project
- Neighbor has noise concerns

Portland Neighborhood associations

Alameda Neighborhood Association
Arbor Lodge Neighborhood Association
Ardenwald/Johnson Creek Neighborhood Association
Argay Neighborhood Association
Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association
Arnold Creek Neighborhood Association
Ashcreek Neighborhood Association
Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association
Boise Neighborhood Association
Brentwood/Darlington Neighborhood Association
Bridgeton Neighborhood Association
Bridlemile Neighborhood Association
Brooklyn Action Corps
Buckman Community Association
Centennial Community Association
Collins View Neighborhood Association
Concordia Neighborhood Association
Creston-Kenilworth Neighborhood Association
Crestwood Neighborhood Association
Cully Association of Neighbors
Downtown Neighborhood Association
East Columbia Neighborhood Association
Eastmoreland Neighborhood Association
Eliot Neighborhood Association
Far Southwest Neighborhood Association
Forest Park Neighborhood Association
Foster-Powell Neighborhood Association
Friends of Cathedral Park Neighborhood Association
Glenfair Neighborhood Association
Goosehollow Foothills League
Grant Park Neighborhood Association
Hayden Island Neighborhood Network

Hayhurst Neighborhood Association
Hazelwood Neighborhood Association
Healy Heights Neighborhood Association
Hillsdale Neighborhood Association
Hillside Neighborhood Association
Hollywood Neighborhood Association
Homestead Neighborhood Association
Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood Development
Humboldt Neighborhood Association
Irvington Community Association
Kenton Neighborhood Association
Kerns Neighborhood Association
King Neighborhood Association
Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association
Lents Neighborhood Association
Linnton Neighborhood Association
Lloyd District Community Association
Madison South Neighborhood Association
Maplewood Neighborhood Association
Markham Neighborhood Association
Marshall Park Neighborhood Association
Mill Park Neighborhood Association
Montavilla Community Association
Mt Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association
Mt Tabor Neighborhood Association
Multnomah Neighborhood Association
North Tabor Neighborhood Association
Northwest District Association
Northwest Heights Neighborhood Association
Northwest Industrial Neighborhood Association
Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association
Overlook Neighborhood Association

Parkrose Heights Association of Neighbors
Parkrose Neighborhood Association
Pearl Neighborhood Association
Piedmont Neighborhood Association
Pleasant Valley Neighborhood Association
Portsmouth Neighborhood Association
Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association
Reed Neighborhood Association
Richmond Neighborhood Association
Rose City Park Neighborhood Association
Roseway Neighborhood Association
Russell Neighborhood Association
Sabin Community Association
Sellwood-Moreland Improvement League (SMILE)
South Burlingame Neighborhood Association
South Portland Neighborhood Association
South Tabor Neighborhood Association
Southwest Hills Residential League
St Johns Neighborhood Association
Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association
Sumner Association of Neighbors
Sunderland Neighborhood Association
Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
Sylvan-Highlands Neighborhood Association
University Park Neighborhood Association
Vernon Community Association
West Portland Park Neighborhood Association
Wilkes Community Group
Woodland Park Neighborhood Association
Woodlawn Neighborhood Association
Woodstock Neighborhood Association

Helpful Portland Phone Numbers

Neighborhood Hotlines

Abandon Vehicle Hotline: 503-823-7309

Animal Control: 503-988-3066

City/County Information: 503-823-4000

Crime Prevention Specialist: 503-823-4763

Gang Enforcement Team: 503-823-4106

Garbage and Recycling Hotline: 503-823-7202

Graffiti Hotline: 503-823-4824

Liquor Outlet Complaints (24hr): 503-872-5070

Neighborhood Mediation: 503-823-3152

Nuisance (Properties): 503-823-7306

Parking Patrol: 503-823-5195

Police Precinct – NE: 503-823-5700

Pothole Program: 503-823-2867

Sewer Repair and Emergencies: 503-823-4111

Street Light Out: 503-823-5216

Transportation Safety and Neighborhood Livability Hotline: 503-823-7233

Traffic Signal Not Working: 503-823-4874

Water Main Breaks: 503-823-4874

Women's Crisis Line: 503-235-5333

Regional Arts and Cultural Council (RACC) Grants

City Repair is an organized group action that educates and inspires communities and individuals to creatively transform the places where they live. City Repair facilitates artistic and ecologically-oriented placemaking through projects that honor the interconnection of human communities and the natural world. The many projects of City Repair have been accomplished by a mostly volunteer staff and thousands of volunteer citizen activists.

City Repair began in Portland, Oregon with the idea that localization - of culture, of economy, of decision-making - is a necessary foundation of sustainability. By reclaiming urban spaces to create community-oriented places, we plant the seeds for greater neighborhood communication, empower our communities and nurture our local culture.

Our projects include the annual Village Building Convergence, where people gather at neighborhood sites throughout Portland to engage in intersection repair, natural building, and other forms of placemaking. We also produce Portland's Earth Day event.

Throughout the year we educate the community with workshops on all forms of sustainability and offer the invaluable placemaking guidebook and one-on-one consulting for those who want to repair their own neighborhood. If you are interested in helping our efforts please visit our volunteer page.

As an almost entirely volunteer-driven nonprofit organization, we rely solely on the support of our community.

Contact Us

By Phone:
(503) 235-8946

By Email:
info@cityrepair.org

By Mail:
PO Box 42615
Portland, OR 97242

PDC Community Livability Grant Program

Each year, the Portland Development Commission seeks proposals that foster vibrant and healthy neighborhoods within the Interstate Corridor, Lents Town Center, and (beginning in 2013) Gateway Regional Center Urban Renewal Areas. Grants are available through the PDC Community Livability Grant Program for real property improvements to public facilities and neighborhood and cultural amenities that meet the needs and honor the diversity of area residents.

Grants are awarded through a competitive process and are intended to encourage projects that address community objectives, advance social equity, focus on disadvantaged Portlanders, and build local community capacity. Projects must add, expand or improve physical space that benefits the broader community. Examples include:

- Community health or nutrition centers
- Education and workforce training centers
- Recreational space
- Childcare centers
- Open space and community gardens
- Music, arts and cultural centers
- Historic or cultural assets
- Senior centers

For more information or to be added to the mailing list, please contact:

Carol Herzberg
Senior Program Manager
PDC, 222 NW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97209
503-823-3276

Community Watershed Stewardship Program (CWSP)

Funding for YOUR community project including neighborhood improvements, community gardens, youth leadership, and more!
Community Watershed Stewardship Program (CWSP) helps Portlanders make improvements in their neighborhoods and communities, while also improving the health of our watersheds. CWSP is a partnership between Environmental Services and Portland State University. CWSP administers two grant programs: Stewardship Grants of up to \$10,000 and Native Plant Mini-Grants of up to \$500.

CWSP provides Stewardship Grants of up to \$10,000 for projects such as:

- Youth leadership and job skills programs
 - Neighborhood safety, health and livability projects
 - Adding plants and trees to your neighborhood, school or church
 - Cleanup and restoration of parks, playgrounds and streams
 - Community gardens
 - Replacing pavement with native plants
 - Environmental education and art projects
- CWSP provides Native Plant Mini-Grants of up to \$500.

Mini-Grants are available to both community groups and some private landowners throughout the year to purchase native plants.

CWSP seeks to award grants in a manner that advances the city's established equity goals, with regard to where projects are carried out and who they involve and benefit. We encourage projects that expand and diversify leadership and participation in watershed stewardship.

If you have questions about the grant program, past projects, or have an idea for a project of your own, contact the Stewardship Coordinators, Rosa Lehman or Shannon Jamison at 503-823-7917.

Metro Community Enhancement Grants

Metro has invested more than \$5 million in projects that benefit areas directly affected by Metro's garbage disposal facilities. Grants are to be used to create changes in the community that also may improve a neighborhood's image.

To be considered, projects will do one or more of the following:

- increase employment and economic opportunities
- rehabilitate and upgrade residential housing
- preserve wildlife, marine and recreational areas for public enjoyment
- improve public safety
- enhance neighborhood appearance or cleanliness
- improve viability of commercial areas and enhance the business environment
- provide programs and training opportunities to benefit youth and elderly
- create long-term improvements for neighborhood livability.

Who can apply

Proposals are accepted only from nonprofit organizations including, but not limited to, neighborhood associations or charitable organizations with 501(c)3 status under the Internal Revenue Code.

Examples of projects funded by Metro enhancement grants
developing environmental education projects for at-risk youth
removing ivy and restoration in Forest Park
installing fire escapes at senior centers
producing summer concert programs in local parks
planting trees around community parks and main street boulevards in industrial areas.

NEED ASSISTANCE?

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Regional Arts and Cultural Council (RACC) Grants

The Project Grant Program provides financial support to Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas County not-for-profit organizations and individual artists for Project Based Arts Programming. Grants are awarded up to \$6,000 and are available in three categories: Artistic Focus, Community Participation and Arts-In-Schools.

Applications are available in June, with deadlines beginning in August for projects occurring in the upcoming calendar year.

For current guidelines and deadlines, please visit www.racc.org/GrantsOnline.

Project Definition:

A project is a specific art presentation, exhibit or creation of work that is fully executed within a specified timeline and contains a public component. A project possesses artistic quality, imaginative scope and vision, and is fully executed within a specified timeline. RACC offers funding for Project Grants in the following three categories:

Artistic Focus - project grants that demonstrate high artistic quality, innovation, creativity in programming and artist selection, and demonstrated ability by the artist or organization.

Community Participation - project grants that support cultural and arts programs and services that involve direct community participation. The project should impact a variety of citizens in the RACC service area by helping to provide them with a greater sense of self, family, community and place.

Arts-In-Schools (K-12) project grants that encourage and enable members of the professional arts community to work in schools and create arts-rich learning environments. In an effort to better accommodate the needs of the education community, the availability of Project Grant Arts-In-Schools applications will coincide with the beginning of the school year.