

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE February 17, 2026

TO Honorable Members of the Quality of Life, Arts & Culture Committee: Zarin D. Gracey (Chair), Laura Cadena (Vice Chair), Adam Bazaldua, Paul Ridley, Bill Roth, Chad West, Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **Receipt and Allocation of Love Your Block Grant for Resident-Led Projects**

This memorandum serves to inform City Council that the City of Dallas Code Compliance Department has been awarded a \$60,000 grant for one year through a sub-agreement with Johns Hopkins University, funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies. The purpose of this grant is to support the "Love Your Block" initiative. The funds received will be used to provide additional staffing that will serve as a facilitator driven to create and work on projects that address public needs in the community through resident-led projects. The grant period is from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026.

Background

On December 11, 2024, the City Council accepted a two-year "Love Your Block" grant (\$100,000) on funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies. This initiative highlights the City's commitment to support engaging volunteers in activities focused on blight prevention, remediation and neighborhood revitalization. In 2025, Code Compliance awarded over twenty-five \$1,500 mini grants that went towards beautifying their community.

Under this new agreement, which serves as a sub-agreement to the prime agreement executed on December 11, 2024, with Johns Hopkins University, Code Compliance will receive \$60,000 which will go towards hiring a temporary employee and towards mini-grant funding used to focus on beautifying the community. The temporary employee will manage, develop, implement, and prepare engagement strategies for community led projects. In addition, this temporary employee will play a key role in engaging residents, partners, and stakeholders, while supporting the successful execution of programs and volunteer-driven projects.

The grant award will be utilized to launch and expand the following programs:

- **Resident-Led Neighborhood Improvements:** Coordinating volunteer and resident efforts focused on reducing blight through clean-ups, beautification projects, and small-scale neighborhood enhancements.

DATE February 17, 2026
SUBJECT **Receipt and Allocation of Love Your Block Grant for Resident-Led Projects**
PAGE **2 of 2**

- **Community Mini-Grant Implementation:** Expanding the Love Your Block mini-grant program to fund resident-driven projects that improve neighborhood conditions and strengthen community pride.

Financial Impact

- **Total Award:** \$60,000.
- **Match Requirement:** The grant requires a 0% match.
- **Sustainability:** Awarded funds must be utilized by October 31, 2026, according to the grant guidelines.

Next Steps

An item to accept the grant and authorize the City Manager to establish an appropriation of \$60,000 will be brought to City Council for consideration on March 25, 2026.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Director Christopher Christian at chris.christian@dallas.gov.

Service First, Now!



Alina Ciocan
Assistant City Manager

- c: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billierae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Baron Eliason, Inspector General (I)
Dominique Artis, Chief of Public Safety
Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager
- M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Ahmad Goree, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors