



CITY OF MANITOWOC

WISCONSIN, USA

www.manitowoc.org

Date: May 1, 2025
To: Finance Committee
From: Adam Tegen, Community Development
Re: Grant Opportunities at River Point

In an ongoing attempt to identify alternative resources for the cleanup of the River Point District to get it ready for redevelopment, we are recommending the pursuit of two grant opportunities. Both of these grants would support the EPA Brownfield Cleanup Grant that was already submitted last fall and we hope to hear good news on later this month. If the EPA grant and the two additional grants fund, it will allow us to reduce the amount of TID dollars the City is putting into the current phase.

The first grant opportunity is the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) Brownfield Grant. This grant is intended for the cleanup of contaminated areas and the intended use of the funds would be for soil removal and importing of clean fill along the north bank of the peninsula (former Braun Building area). We would look to request the maximum amount of \$250,000 allowed under the program. In conversations with WEDC staff, they are out of funding for the current fiscal year, but the program will once again have funding starting on July 1. By getting the application coordinated and applied for now, it should help us get to the front of the line. We have been very successful in working with the WEDC on assessment grants for River Point and we are confident in their support as we move onto the cleanup.

The second grant opportunity is a relatively new program under the EPA called Thriving Communities grant. This new program differs from the typical EPA grant program in the fact that the funds are provided to regional non-profits who handle the distribution process. In our region, the non-profit overseeing the grant is the Minneapolis Foundation. We would be looking to request up to the \$350,000 maximum under this program. The funds would be utilized for similar uses as the WEDC grant. Since this is a new program, we are not as clear on the goals and key points of the program, but we are confident that the City and the project have a good story to tell.

Under our existing contract with Stantec, the preparation of the WEDC Brownfield Grant is provided at no cost to the City. Unfortunately, due to the uniqueness of the Thriving Communities grant, the cost of grant preparation is not covered by our agreement. As such, the cost to have Stantec prepare the grant and submit it is \$2,000. However, I would note that this is a greatly reduced cost due to the fact that they are very familiar with the site and can utilize similar information that was included in the EPA grant and would be used for the WEDC grant. Funding for the grant preparation would come out of existing TID funds. Since one grant is state funded and one is federal funded, we can utilize the grants as matching funds for each other. If additional match is needed, it will be provided by the existing TID funding.

Staff is requesting authorization to pursue both the WEDC Brownfield Grant and Thriving Communities Grant with an expected total ask of \$600,000.

As always, I am happy to provide any additional information or answer any questions. I can be reached at ategen@manitowoc.org or 920-686-6931.

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GREAT LAKES

Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program



The Great Lakes Thriving Communities Grantmaking (TCGM) Partnership will award environmental justice grants to organizations working in and for underserved communities throughout the Great Lakes region. The partnership includes the Midwest Environmental Justice Network, the Minneapolis Foundation, RE-AMP, and NDN Collective.

These grants are made possible by funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). \$40 million will be distributed to community-based nonprofits and other eligible organizations in Region 5 of the EPA. This area includes Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, and 36 federally recognized tribal nations. We expect to award 206 grants from Fall 2024-Fall 2026.

GRANT OVERVIEW

Grants will be awarded to eligible entities in the following three tiers:

Tier 1: Assessment and Engagement

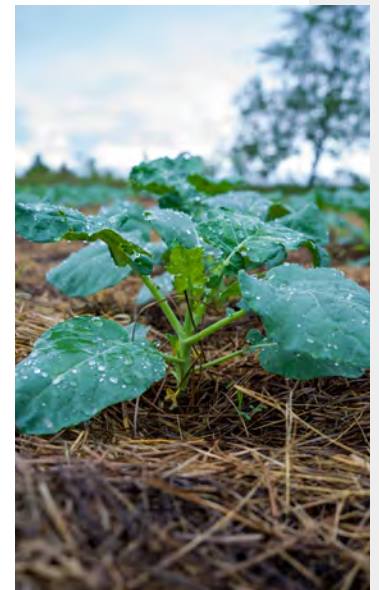
We will award one-year grants of up to \$150,000 for assessment and engagement efforts. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to: Developing curricula, community mapping, and research. Through a noncompetitive process, we will also award grants of up to \$75,000 to groups we identify as severely capacity-constrained.

Tier 2: Community Education and Planning

We will award one- to two-year grants of up to \$250,000 for community-focused efforts. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to: Developing communications and outreach plans; conducting workshops and trainings; and other community planning and visioning efforts.

Tier 3: Project Development and Implementation

We will award one- to two-year grants of up to \$350,000 to pilot or implement project plans. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to: Strengthening cumulative impact, public health, or environmental justice protections; developing community gardens; and creating community resilience hubs.



ISSUE AREAS



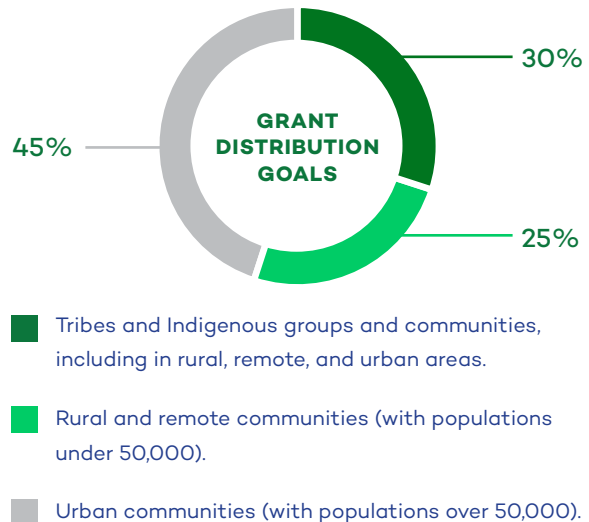
Grants will support projects that focus on issues including, but not limited to:

- Environmental health
- Air, soil, and water quality
- Healthy homes
- Access to healthy food
- Stormwater and green infrastructure
- Emergency preparedness
- Disaster resilience
- Environmental job training

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must work on environmental justice, climate, or public health issues in the Great Lakes region. Eligible applicants include:

- Tribal governments and intertribal consortia
- Native American and Indigenous organizations
- Nonprofit organizations, including grassroots/community-based, philanthropic, and civic organizations
- Local governments
- Institutions of higher education



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