



# Canada Healthy Communities Initiative

**February 16, 2021**  
**General Committee Meeting**



# Agenda

- Overview of Program
- Eligibility Criteria
- Evaluation Criteria
- Next Steps



# Overview of Program

- Healthy Communities Initiative is a \$31 million federal investment program designed to transform public spaces in response to COVID-19.
- The initiative supports communities as they create and adapt public spaces, and programming and services for public spaces to respond to ongoing needs arising from COVID-19 over the next two years.
- The initiative will fund small-scale physical, social, and digital infrastructure projects to create safer, more vibrant and inclusive communities.
- Community Foundations of Canada (CFC) and its network are working alongside the Canadian Urban Institute (CUI) and other partners to evaluate and approve projects for funding.



# Overview of Program

- The Healthy Communities Initiative will provide funding to a broad range of organizations:
  - Municipalities and municipally-owned corporations
  - Charities
  - Indigenous communities
  - Non-profits
- Healthy Communities Initiatives Themes:
  - Create and adapt safe and vibrant public spaces
  - Improve mobility options, and
  - Provide innovative digital solutions to connect people and improve health



# Overview of Program

- Healthy Communities Initiative projects will:
  - respond to identified needs arising from impacts of COVID-19;
  - create and adapt public spaces, and programming and services for public spaces in the public interest;
  - demonstrate consideration of and connections with the community;
  - serve the general public or a community disproportionately impacted by COVID-19; and,
  - fall within the three Healthy Communities Initiative theme areas.



# Program Overview

- **Project Timeline – Round One** - Apply by March 9, 2021. Review committee will start meeting to make decision from March 10, 2021 onwards and all applicants will receive results by April 30, 2021. Applicants that did not receive funding in Round One can apply to round two but not guaranteed funding.
- **Round Two** – Apply between May 14, 2021 and June 25, 2021. Review Committee will start meeting on June 26, 2021 and applicants will receive results by August 13, 2021.
- **Funding Range:** \$5,000 and \$250,000
- **Approved Expenses:** Incurred prior to June 30, 2022



# Program Overview

- **Number of Submissions** – There will be two rounds of funding. Markham can submit one application per round.
- **Evaluation:** Criteria includes the project rationale, community engagement, outcomes and project implementation and readiness



# Eligibility Criteria

**The project must fulfill all of the following criteria for consideration:**

- Submitted by an eligible organization, and provides documentation
- Responds to needs arising from COVID-19
- Creates or adapts public spaces, or programming or services for public spaces in the public interest
- Demonstrates consideration of and connections within the community
- Serves the general public or a community disproportionately impacted by COVID-19
- Falls within the Healthy Communities Initiative theme(s)
- Submitted with a complete budget
- Is requesting between \$5,000 and \$250,000
- Incurs expenses between April 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022





# Evaluation Criteria

Projects that fulfill the eligibility criteria will be evaluated on the following evaluation criteria:

Requirement	Description	Project Criteria
Project Rationale	The degree to which the project clearly creates safe and vibrant spaces, improves mobility options or provides digital solutions for communities experiencing the impacts of COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Responds to the impacts of COVID-19 according to local needs and context</li><li>• Considers public health measures in project design</li><li>• If applicable, considers collaborators or partners to strengthen the project</li></ul>
Community Engagement	The degree to which the project clearly engages diverse communities in design, implementation and use, and strengthens community resilience; including communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrates meaningful community engagement, including with those disproportionately affected by COVID-19, and considers equity</li><li>• Demonstrates local leadership in decision-making and project delivery</li><li>• Demonstrates how it will engage and generate participation in its project</li></ul>
Outcomes	The degree to which the project clearly demonstrates short-term, immediate benefit and potential long-term impact, viability and sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrates positive community impact(s) through one of the Healthy Communities Initiative theme(s)</li><li>• Demonstrates knowledge of community pressures and needs</li><li>• Demonstrates a plan, if applicable, to sustain the project long-term</li><li>• Considers a plan to capture community impact, including gathering stories and lessons learned for future projects, where applicable</li></ul>
Project Implementation and Readiness	The degree to which the project clearly has a responsible work plan, project team, timelines, and budget, and considers permits and approvals that may affect successful implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides a responsible budget including clear costing, procurement decisions and equity considerations</li><li>• Demonstrates the project can be completed in realistic timelines</li><li>• Demonstrates project team capacity and appropriate leadership to deliver the project</li><li>• Demonstrates an understanding of which permits and approvals are required</li></ul>



## Next Steps

1. Corporate Communications post all relevant material on the City Website and all available communication channels and develop promotional material promoting the grant opportunity in the community.
2. Staff provide promotional material to members of Council to do outreach to community organizations and other stakeholders in Markham who are eligible to apply.
3. Directors Forum will review opportunities and develop a list of potential projects for review by the Executive Leadership Team (ELT).
4. ELT will presents options at March 1 GC Meeting.
5. Staff will submit one application to the funder by March 9 at 8:00 PM ET



# Recommendations

1. That the presentation titled, “Canada Healthy Communities Initiative”, be received; and
2. That staff be authorized to submit one project in Round One and one project in Round Two; and
3. That Council members forward their project ideas to the Chief Administrative Officer for consideration by Tuesday, February 23, 2021; and
4. That staff report back to General Committee on March 1<sup>st</sup> with the prioritized list of project options; and
5. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.