

2009 Neighborhood Improvement Program Grant Application

The deadline for submission of Neighborhood Improvement Program Grant applications is **Wednesday, January 7, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.** Applications submitted after this deadline will not be considered for funding.

Priority Ranking _____
(Complete if submitting more than one proposal)

Neighborhood Group: The Reserve at Ute Creek Homeowners Association Date: November 11, 2008

Contact Person: Gary Mutz Home Phone: 303-772-3120 Work Phone: 303-401-1493

Address: 1326 Whitehall Drive, Longmont, Colorado Zip 80501

Project Title: Sustainable Landscape Enhancement Program

Project Location: The Reserve at Ute Creek Common Landscape Areas, Borders, and planters

Amount requested: \$5,000.00

Project Description: This is the first phase of a multi-phased program to reduce landscape water

usage, reduce landscape waste products, and decrease the carbon footprint generated by gas

engines use to maintain the current landscape design; all falling under the term "Sustainability."

The 2009 Phase targets redevelopment of five planter bed areas: increasing their size to reduce lawn

area to lower water usage, lawn cuttings, and carbon footprint impacts; implementing perennial

plant materials to replace annual plant materials; improve vehicle traffic views at the

intersection of Whitehall Drive and 17th Avenue by using lower-growth plant materials; and

utilizing river rock as ground cover to replace bark shavings that are subject to displacement.

NIP Grants applied for or awarded in the last three years

2008 - Applied for Yes ___ No Grant awarded? Yes ___ No ___ Amount Awarded? \$ _____

2007 - Applied for Yes ___ No Grant awarded? Yes ___ No ___ Amount Awarded? \$ _____

2006 - Applied for Yes ___ No Grant awarded? Yes ___ No ___ Amount Awarded? \$ _____

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How did you involve your neighborhood in choosing this project? 0-4 point value

In the Reserve at Ute Creek Newsletter, the Board of Directors advertized its intent to form a Committee of property-unit owner volunteers to develop concepts that would improve the sustainable landscape level originally planted within the HOA between 1998 and 1999. A number of volunteers responded to the newsletter's request and formed a committee which was approved by the Board of Directors and given the mission to move the HOA's landscape toward a higher level of sustainable operation: Lower water usage, decrease waste being generated, reduce gas engine impacts.

How will this project benefit your neighborhood? 0-5 point value

The wonderful part of this grant proposal is that it benefits the Reserve at Ute Creek neighborhood along with benefiting the City of Longmont: lower landscape water requirements, lower waste generation normally going to landfill, and lower emission volume coming from small gas engines normally powering landscape maintenance equipment. It is not only a "Green" initiative but ends up saving the neighborhood in annual utilities and maintenance costs as a result of lowering water usage and landscape maintenance time and materials. It enhances the neighborhood in not only appearance but also in lowering common maintenance costs to each homeowner.

How will this project benefit the public? 0-5 point value

Longmont is moving toward being a "Green" community as seen with recent shift to Single-Stream recycling. Single-Stream is just one way of improving the City's sustainable footprint on the local environment. This first phase of a multi-year sustainable landscape program is in direct support of the City of Longmont's efforts to conserve utilities, improve "Diversion" of waste materials from landfills (single-stream recycling), and working to reduce the carbon footprint of fossil-fuel City vehicles (alternative fuels, better MPG, better emissions controls, etc.).

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Why is this project needed in your neighborhood?

0-5 point value

This project is not just needed within the Reserve at Ute Creek neighborhood. It is a shared vision within the Longmont community to lower utility usage, lower waste generation, and reduce carbon footprint impacts. This neighborhood is simply doing its part in support of the City's existing efforts. As said before, it not only benefits the City, it also benefits the neighborhood's homeowners through improved cost management (lower utility bills and sustaining maintenance costs). Higher HOA dues assessments lower property values. This multi-phased program has a return on investment value in addition to being environmentally supportive.

What is your plan to implement this project?

0-5 point value

Phase One would involve property unit owner support in developing landscape plans, researching perennial plant materials, and manual labor where appropriate. This effort will also require involvement with Wards Landscape company of Longmont, the current landscape service provider. Wards is intimately aware of low-water usage plant materials, efficient water distribution designs, and the neighborhood's existing landscape water controls and distribution system. Volunteer hours, matching funds from the neighborhood's HOA, and this grant will be used to execute at least this first phase of implementation. May 2009 will kick off the actual physical changes of Phase One, with planning and preparation being completed in January through April of 2009.

What is the contribution to this project from neighborhood (money/materials/labor)?

0-6 point value

The neighborhood members include property managers for industrial sites, landscape designers, a horticulturist, and a number of motivated participants, each with a willingness to volunteer their time and talents in creating a Sustainable Landscape ("Go Green"). The HOA currently spends \$1,400 per year on annual plant materials and preparation, money that will be shifted to this Sustainable Landscape program in 2009 and following years. Between volunteer labor hours, HOA budget resources, and this requested grant funding, the overall goal of Phase One should be attained with minimal risk. Professional landscape services, however, will be required to ensure proper irrigation modifications, plant material warranties, and City code compliance.

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What kind of maintenance will this project need and what is your plan to maintain it?

(If this project requires maintenance and no plan is submitted, the project will not be funded)

The Reserve at Ute Creek HOA maintains an existing maintenance agreement with Wards Landscape Company in Longmont. Dave Ward, a principal of the company, is directly involved in the landscape maintenance contract's administration. The HOA's Board of Directors monitors the contract's performance obligations along with initial scope of work development.

Names and addresses of maintenance contacts (attach additional pages if necessary)

Dave Ward, Ward's Landscape Company, 9165 Nelson Road, Longmont, Colorado 80503

Daye Sanders, President, Reserve at Ute Creek Homeowners Association, 1239 Reserve Drive, Longmont, Colorado, 80501 (HOA landscape contract administrator)

Project Budget

Materials/Vendors:

Request

Match

Landscape Materials/Ward's Landscape Co.	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,400.00
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

Services:

Landscape design & materials development		
80 hours @ \$ 10.00 /hour =	\$	\$ 800.00
Labor hours on general site preparation		
80 hours @ \$ 10.00 /hour =	\$	\$ 800.00
	\$	\$
TOTAL	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,000.00

TOTAL PROJECT COST INCLUDING MATCH \$ 8,000.00

PERCENT OF TOTAL 62.50 % 37.50 %

Estimate Developed by: Gary Mutz, MBA, Director, Reserve at Ute Creek HOA
 Senior Manager, Amgen Colorado Facilities Planning & Services
 (responsibility includes 250 acres of grounds & landscape maintenance)