The GGCP is designed to bring the energy efficiency and environmental benefits of a healthy tree canopy to Gateway Cities.

Executive Office of Environment & Energy Affairs (EEA)
Department of Conservation & Recreation Urban & Community Forestry Program (DCR)
Department of Energy Resources (DOER)
Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)
Municipal Partnership Grant Program Overview & Goals

- Program seeks municipal support to prepare locations for tree planting in coordination with DCR Urban & Community Forestry Program.

- Appropriate City department & staff coordinate with DCR foresters to prepare sites identified for GGCP planting efforts.

- Municipality receives reimbursement for eligible expenses.

- Support and build relationships between DCR foresters and municipal departments to coordinate planting efforts and nourish neighborhoods.
Funding Availability

- Maximum grant award is $20,000.
- Reimbursement grant program.
- Costs incurred prior to award contract are not eligible for reimbursement.

Eligible Applicants

- Gateway City municipalities where DCR has active planting crews in FY23 (July 2022 – June 2023).
- New in FY 23: Everett, Malden, Taunton and Worcester.
- Full list of eligible cities can be found in Bid document.
Eligible Project Costs

- Work to identify & prepare sites for GGCP tree planting:
  - Installation of catch basin tree pits
  - Removal of impervious surfaces for tree planting & health
  - Stump removal required for tree planting
  - Heavy equipment use to assist GGCP tree planting work
  - Soil enhancements

- Outreach materials to communicate GGCP tree planting work and benefits.

- Stewardship of recently planted trees:
  - Watering, mulching, pruning, and replacing tree guards as needed

- Vacant lot planting & restoration within the Planting Zone: Consult with a DCR forester.
Application Requirements

• Submit (or have on file with EEA) a tree planting plan that identifies:
  • Proposed streets for tree site preparation work
  • Location of utilities (Dig Safe)
  • Municipal or other public lands eligible for tree planting
  • Identify the overlap with DCR planting zones
  • Any future planting that the city has planned

• Planting plan should be reviewed with Municipal Planning Department, as well as by DCR Forester.
• See sample tree planting plan included with the grant Bid.
Budget Requirements

- Itemized budget is required (see sample budget template). Please follow applicable guidelines in the Bid document (i.e.; watering must reflect weekly application of 15 gallons/tree).

- Identify any in-kind funding match the municipality will provide.

COST REIMBURSEMENT:

Costs must be incurred during contract period to be reimbursed and proof of payment by grant award recipient is required.
Municipal Application Evaluation

- The application’s clarity & the merits of the project (40%)

- Project’s overall contribution to GGCP tree planting, urban canopy in populated areas, and/or climate change resiliency (40%)

- The value of the municipal contributions to the overall project (direct costs or long-term stewardship) (20%)

- MVP communities receive 5 Bonus Points if proposed activities are part of a priority implementation project within the MVP Plan.
Grant Timeline

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Thursday, May 19 at 3:00pm
Submit PDF application electronically – do not exceed 20 MB

- Application review/site visits scheduled
- Awards announced (late June).
- Contracts executed (September).
- Project work conducted (Fall, 2022 & Spring, 2023)
- Grant reimbursement requests submitted by June 30, 2023
Contact Information

Vanessa Farny
vanessa.farny@mass.gov
(857) 330-1978

Doug Hutcheson
Douglas.Hutcheson@mass.gov

https://www.mass.gov/service-details/greening-the-gateway-cities-program