



Neighborhood Fast Track Pride Grants

What are FAST TRACK Neighborhood Pride Grants?

The Oswego Renaissance Association offers Fast Track Pride Grants (\$500 or less) to support projects and activities that sow the seeds of revitalization by engaging residents in the renaissance of their neighborhoods. Pride Grants require coordination with neighbors to improve the neighborhood. **At least 5 neighborhood households must apply together for the grant.** If the work is for public space (sidewalks, curbs, parks, etc), the grants do not require a match. (i.e.: The area between the sidewalk and street is considered public space.). If the project improves private properties (roughly between sidewalk & house), and the entire cost for the street is less than \$300, no funds from applicants are required. If the grant exceeds \$300, then a minimum of a 1:1 dollar match from property owners are required for every dollar above \$300.

What types of projects and activities are eligible?

The following are examples of projects, activities and expenses eligible for Pride Grants. The list is not exhaustive, and more ideas are available at the ORA website. If you have questions about specific projects and expenses, email the Oswego Renaissance Association (ORA) at oswegorenaissance@gmail.com or call the ORA Office at 315-216-4338

- Trees for a neighborhood street
- Hanging Flower Baskets
- Flags
- Neighborhood Gateway Signage
- Supplies for Street Beautification (plants, soil, mulch)
- Block Party Supplies (food, decorations, equipment rental)
- House numbers, mailboxes, picket fences, hedges, etc for participating households
- Communal Tools and Supplies for Neighborhood Clean Ups
- Landscape lights, plants, landscaping materials for multiple houses
- Beautification projects (trees, plants, soil, mulch, paint)
- Planters, park benches, fountains (acquisition or repair)
- Signage and Logo Design
- Playground Equipment and Repair
- Newsletter printing and other expenses
- Web site development and maintenance
- Expenses for Regularly Scheduled or Special Meetings

Who is eligible to apply?

At least 5 neighborhood households must apply together. Also, neighborhood organizations, block clubs, neighborhood-based institutions, are all eligible to apply for a Pride Grant. **Only one Pride Grant can be awarded per project.** In 2021 no more than one Fast Track Pride applications will be accepted from the same organization/individual/street



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How do I apply?

A complete application will contain a completed and signed copy of this form (Parts I-III).

EMAIL the completed applications to: oswegorenaissance@gmail.com **OR** mail to

Paul Stewart
Director
Oswego Renaissance Association
453 Mahar Hall
SUNY Oswego 13126

Applications will be approved or rejected within 1 week of submission based on: (1) completeness and clarity of the application; (2) whether or not the proposed project or activity adheres to the program's goals of supporting projects that engage neighborhood residents and/or facilitate visible improvements; and (3) whether or not the proposed expenses meet eligibility criteria.

How are the funds distributed?

If a project and the proposed expenses are approved for funding, the awardee will enter into a funding agreement with the Oswego Renaissance Association that outlines the maximum commitment of the ORA and the agreed-upon expenses. Digital before and after photos are required for funding if the project is a physical improvement. Awarded funds will be distributed in one of the following ways:

- Direct reimbursement to the individual(s) or organization(s) that incur eligible expenses, upon submission of receipts and invoices. Sales tax cannot be reimbursed.
- Direct payment to a provider of eligible goods or services

If circumstances warrant a deviation from these preferred methods of fund distribution, the ORA will work with the awardee to develop an acceptable funding arrangement.

Projects in Public Space: Pride Projects that involve the use of public space (City property) may require permission and coordination with the City of Oswego. Please discuss potential public space projects with the ORA and discuss your idea with the City of Oswego Zoning Office at 315-342-8158.

Building Permits? If there is any question if a building permit is required for any part of your project, please contact the City of Oswego 315-342-8158.



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Application—Part 2

Applicant Information

Project name: _____

Organization, neighborhood group or
individual requesting funds: _____

Lead contact: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Amount requested: _____

If awarded a Pride Grant, applicant agrees to:

- Enter into a grant agreement with the Oswego Renaissance Association, detailing the maximum commitment of the ORA, expenses to be covered by the grant, a timeline for the project or activity, and the method(s) of payment. **Improvements to private property (>\$300) require matching funds (at least 1:1 dollar-for-dollar from owners) & are reimbursed through submitted receipts (excluding sales tax).**
- Allow the ORA to publicize the grant to local media in order to raise the profile of the grant program and educate the public about the types of projects neighborhoods can undertake to spur citizen engagement and revitalization.
- Submit a one paragraph performance review within 3 months of signing the grant agreement that explains the results of the project and its impact on the neighborhood. Include Photos.

Signature

Date



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Application—Part 2

Project Summary

Please fill out the following

- 1. **Background:** What is the motivation for the project?

- 2. **Implementation:** What will take place?

- 3. **Community Involvement:** At least 5 nearby households must participate in some way. How do community members involved support the project? In other words, how is everyone involved?

- 4. **Maintenance:** What plans are in place to ensure that this project or initiative—or the interest it generates—is maintained? If it is a physical project, what maintenance issues are there and how will they be addressed?

Project Budget

All projects must include a simple itemized budget (see example below). Outline the estimated expenses and total cost. **MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE BUDGET: \$500**
