

# Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) Application for Local Funding

Deadline: 12 p.m. Friday, October 15, 2021

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Active Living Dakota County (ALDC) is pleased to announce an opportunity for cities to apply for 2021 - 2022 Local Funding. These funds are made available through the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP), which strives to help Minnesotans lead longer, healthier lives by preventing the chronic disease risk factors of poor nutrition and physical inactivity. The active living and healthy eating portion of Dakota County's SHIP grant focuses on using policy, systems and environmental changes to increase physical activity and consumption of healthy foods.

Funding is competitive and award amounts may vary, however, past funding amounts have typically been \$10,000-\$30,000 and should not exceed \$30,000. ALDC anticipates funding up to 2-3 projects 2021-2022.

Dakota County staff will provide technical assistance throughout these projects. In addition, staff will connect selected applicants with regional experts on active living and healthy food access.

## Active Living

Active living integrates physical activity into daily routines such as walking or bicycling for recreation, occupation, or transportation. Active Living policies and practices in community design, land use, site planning, and facility access have proven effective to increase levels of physical activity.

### Definitions and Examples

**Policy change** - standards or guidelines that can be formal or informal. For example, updating or creating a policy regarding use of outdoor space for group and individual physical activity.

**System change** - rule changes that impact processes. For example, collaborate with or collect input from community organizations to streamline a farmer's market permitting process.

**Environmental change** - a physical or material change. For example, conducting a walk or bikeability assessment and implementing changes into a capital improvement plan or transportation plan.

**Targeted populations** - includes people 60+, children, low income, and diverse populations.

### Example priority SHIP activities

- **Active living assessment** that includes a baseline assessment of active living opportunities in the community. Assessment activities could include review of relevant city policies, identifying gaps in access or service.
- **Implementation of Comprehensive Plans as they relate to SHIP priorities**
- **Master plans and feasibility studies** that provide a framework to increase access to safe walking and bicycling options
  - Safe Route to School plans
  - Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans
  - Trail feasibility studies
- **Complete streets policies**
- **Demonstration projects** examples: temporary striping for a bike lane, markings for crosswalk improvements
- **Connectivity to recreational facilities**
- **COVID Response-** examples: street conversion for pedestrians
- **Health Equity** – some examples would be community engagement, fitness opportunities, programming that increases awareness to active living, open street events, promoting healthy food access

Check with Lil Leatham - [lil.leatham@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:lil.leatham@co.dakota.mn.us) to see if your city's project is SHIP eligible or not.

## Healthy Eating

Healthy food access is improving people's access to healthier foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables, as opposed to less healthy foods high in saturated fats, sodium, and added sugars. These dietary behavior changes together have the greatest impact towards improving the risk factors most related to the leading causes of death and disability (obesity, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol).

### Example priority SHIP activities

- **City comprehensive plans** that include healthy food access as an important component of local governments' overall infrastructure, land use, zoning, and transportation planning
- **Healthy food access assessments** which include a baseline assessment of healthy food access, review of comprehensive plan, and identifying gaps in your city's current food access (e.g. locations of fresh food markets, SNAP/WIC eligible stores, farmers markets) and other analysis that goes beyond the community's 2015 Food System Policy Analysis done by the Public Health Law Center
- **COVID-19 Response-** Some examples may include: conversion of streets for pedestrian and bicycle usage, advertising food shelf locations, promoting access to healthy food options, adapting community events
- **Land Use and zoning regulations** that support healthy food access

- **Farmland preservation, community-based agriculture, and pollinator policies**
- **Increased access to facilities**

## Community Engagement

Community engagement is public participation that involves groups of people in problem-solving and decision making processes. Funding is available to develop and implement community engagement, with an emphasis on healthy food access and active living. The engagement should emphasize participation from target populations of seniors, diverse groups and low income populations. Examples include community meetings, key informant interviews, focus groups, temporary demonstration projects, and walkability workshops. Engagement can be for a short-term project or more robust as part of a large City project (Ex., comprehensive plan, road project, small area study, etc.).

### COVID-19 Community Engagement

Community engagement should adhere to the safety protocols outlined by the CDC. This may include virtual community meetings and/or socially distanced meetings.

## Infrastructure and Equipment

There are few instances of qualified infrastructure under SHIP guidelines. Allowable expenses include but are not limited to paint for bike lanes or crosswalks, and trail wayfinding signage.

## Eligibility

Dakota County and cities in Dakota County are eligible to apply for local funding to increase active living and healthy eating.

All projects must meet the following minimum criteria:

- All projects must have the ability to be started by January, 2022 and be scheduled for final delivery/completion by October 31, 2022 or have additional funding secured to complete the project beyond this date. Projects may be partitioned to meet the completion deadline, i.e. SHIP funding pays for a component that will be completed by October 31, 2022, while the larger project will continue beyond the deadline.
  - Funding requests can be up to \$30,000 per project.
  - Must provide a 10% match (cash or in-kind).
  - Must be a city-county partnership. For example, integrating health into the city's comprehensive plan; a trail feasibility study must be connected to a county road or regional/county park, trail or greenway.
- Must be consistent with SHIP goals, direction, and eligible expenses.

**Projects that meet the minimum criteria will be scored according to criteria below** **Weight**

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|---|-----|
| 1. How the project addresses SHIP requirements ( <i>including community engagement</i> )  | 25% |
| 2. Consistency with city and County plans, such as comprehensive plans  | 15% |
| 3. Benefit to target populations ( <i>rural areas, people of color, older adults, persons with disabilities, women, people with lower education attainment and, people with low incomes or others experiencing a health disparity</i> ) | 10% |
| 4. Location ( <i>proximity to target populations</i> )  | 15% |
| 5. City wide or regional value  | 10% |
| 6. Number of overall residents who will benefit   | 10% |
| 7. Leverage ( <i>enhance an already existing program or leverage additional funds</i> )   | 5%  |
| 8. Local match ( <i>funding or in-kind resources</i> )  | 5%  |
| 9. Enduring value ( <i>community, political, and institutional support, expected life, who will own and maintain the project</i> )  | 5%  |

## Schedule

Activity	Date
<b>Local Funding Grants Application Distributed</b>	<b>August 12, 2021</b>
<b>Grant Applications Due</b>	<b>October 15, 2021</b>
<b>Application Review Committee Meets</b>	<b>Week of October 18, 2021</b>
<b>County Board Approves Grant Recipients; funding will be available once contracts are signed</b>	<b>November 2021</b>
<b>Projects started as soon as JPA's are finalized</b>	<b>Anticipated by January, 2022</b>
<b>Completion Deadline - All Grant Projects</b>	<b>October 31, 2022</b>

# Application

Does the project meet minimum eligibility criteria as far as you know? Describe any unusual circumstances regarding schedule or eligibility below.

**Respond here.**

## Basic information

**Organization or city:**

**Contact person:**

**Contact email:**

**Contact phone:**

**Project name (one line or less):**

**Project funding request:**

## Project narrative

Concisely describe the project in 1 page or less. This should give reviewers a good idea of what you're proposing but not get too specific. This section is not scored; it will form reviewers' general understanding of the project.

Be sure to articulate the following:

1. How the project will encourage active living and/or healthy food access.
2. How the project will increase health equity in Dakota County.
3. Describe how the project is a city-county partnership.
4. Attach maps or figures to illustrate the project, if applicable (not counted against your page limit).

**Respond here.** Please try to keep it to one page or less. If the response box gives you trouble going over one page, copy and paste a second box.

Respond here.

#### 4) Location — Proximity to target population (15%)

Describe the number of SHIP priority residents in the project area (people 60 or older, children, people with low incomes).

Respond here.

#### 5) City-wide or regional value (10%)

Describe how your project will benefit the city and/or the region. Is your project encouraging policy change in the comprehensive plan update? Is your project connected to an existing or future facility of regional significance? Examples include regional greenway corridors, county or state highways, regional parks, regional commercial districts and community centers, city comprehensive plan that integrates health into the vision, goals and policies.

Respond here.

#### 6) Number of overall residents who will benefit (10%)

Estimate the number of overall residents (target population and general population) who will benefit from this project and explain why. If your project does not include a spatial element, please state how many residents overall will benefit from the project and how.

Respond here.

#### 7) Leverage (5%)

Identify how your project will add to an already programmed project, leverage additional funds, be used as a match for a grant or otherwise will add value.

Respond here.

#### 8) Local match (5%)

Describe how you will meet the 10% match requirement. Specify the anticipated amount in dollars and briefly explain the sources (i.e. staff time, cash match, etc.)?

Respond here.

### 9) Enduring value (5%)

What is the expected life of your project outcomes?

Respond here.

How will it benefit residents long-term?

Respond here.

Who will own and maintain project outcomes or ensure follow-through on the project? Or what community, political or institutional support do you expect for your project outcomes?

Respond here.

### Process

Shortly after the October 15, 2021 deadline, a multi-disciplinary/jurisdictional selection committee made up of County, City, Minnesota Department of Health representatives, and others will review proposals. Proposals found eligible will be scored for each criterion and compared with other projects for relative merit. The review committee may request clarification from applicants before making its decisions.

The review committee will recommend projects worthy of funding for the 2020 - 2021 funding years. County staff will then recommend projects to the Dakota County Board of Commissioners in October. Successful applicants will be notified, pending final approval by the County Board.

### Contact

Lil Leatham [lil.leatham@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:lil.leatham@co.dakota.mn.us) (952) 891-7023

### Review Committee

Please contact Lil Leatham if you would like to participate on the review committee. Members will be asked to review and score applications and attend one meeting on the week of October 18. Total time commitment is approximately 8 hours; 5 hours to review and 3 hours to meet.