



HCYAG Grant Application Form

Submit **one application for each project** via the Hennepin County [Supplier Portal](#).

DO NOT submit more than 10 applications.

Section 1: Definitions

1.1 Local Government Units (LGUs): Municipalities, public school districts, park districts, watershed districts

1.2 LGU grant contact: Primary point of contact at the LGU for this application and project

1.3 Signatory authority: Authorized personnel with the formal authority to make legally binding decisions and sign documents on behalf of the local government unit

1.4 Delegation of signatory authority: Authorized personnel who has also been given the formal authority to make legally binding decisions and sign documents on behalf of the local government unit

1.5 Partner organization: Sub-awardee and/or community organization helping to implement the project

Section 2: Applicant information

2.1 Legal name of local government unit (LGU) Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board	
2.2 Legal address of LGU 2117 West River Road N, Minneapolis, MN 55411	
2.3 LGU grant contact name Cliff Swenson	2.4 Professional title Director of Design and Project Management
2.5 Email cswenson@minneapolisparcs.org	2.6 Phone 612-230-6473
2.7 LGU signatory authority name Al Bangoura	2.8 Professional title Superintendent
2.9 Email abangoura@minneapolisparcs.org	2.10 Phone Click or tap here to enter text.
2.11 Delegation of signatory authority contact (name, email, phone) Click or tap here to enter text.	
2.12 Partner organization(s) Minneapolis Community Clay Courts	
2.13 Partner organization contact (name, email, phone) Charles Weed, charles@letsplayclay.org, 651-398-7580	

Section 3: Project summary

3.1 Grant opportunity (<i>check one box only</i>)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Play Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Lifeguard Services <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Music
3.2 Project name Clay Tennis Courts at East 46 th Street and South 32 nd Avenue – Minnehaha Creek Segment 4 Tennis Courts Transformation	
3.3 Project location (site name, address) Tennis Courts at East 46 th Street and South 32 nd Avenue, 4600 S 32nd Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55406	
3.4 Commissioner district(s) of project location (<i>check all boxes that apply</i>)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 7
3.5 Is this a new project or part of an existing or established program? (<i>check all boxes that apply</i>)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New project <input type="checkbox"/> Recurring project <input type="checkbox"/> Part of an existing or established program	
3.6 Total grant request (<i>currency value only</i>)	\$250,000

Section 4: Project proposal

4.1 Project overview

1. Provide a description of your proposed project.

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) and the Minneapolis Community Clay Courts (MCCC), a nonprofit organization, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2024 to collaboratively implement clay tennis courts at East 46th Street and South 32nd Avenue within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail. These new courts would replace the previous asphalt tennis courts located at this location that had fallen into severe disrepair and were unplayable. To start the process of implementing these courts, MPRB staff demolished and removed the surfacing of the courts and seeded for grass until additional funds could be found to fully construct the new courts. In addition to demolishing the asphalt courts, MCCC has been working to raise funds for the new courts.

MPRB is requesting \$250,000 for this project to help support constructing two 78 foot clay-surfaced tennis courts that would have an accessible path and some grassy space for gathering on either side of the courts. The requested amount would fill the gap between funds raised and the remaining amount needed for the courts. Completing this project would bring two tennis courts back into the Minneapolis Park system for youth to use to learn tennis and continue building skills. It also fulfills a community promise to continue to perpetuate tennis at this location as guided by the community informed Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Plan, which was adopted in 2020.

2. Describe the activities you plan to implement with grant funding. Include an explanation of specific staff who will be responsible for carrying out these activities and their qualifications.

Grant funding will be used to support construction of two clay tennis courts at East 46th Street and South 32nd Avenue within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail.

Andy Schilling, Design Project Manager and Landscape Architect, will be implementing the project from coordinated design development with Minneapolis Community Clay Courts, procurement, and construction. Andy coordinated with Minneapolis Community Clay Courts to design and build a bank of

two clay tennis courts at Waveland Triangle, which opened in 2021.

3. Describe the youth populations that will be served by your project. Address whether the project will be accessible to populations who have been underserved and what methods you will use to reduce barriers and promote equal access to the project.

This would be the second set of public clay tennis courts in Minneapolis and the first ones located in south Minneapolis. Clay tennis courts can be very beneficial for learning tennis because the surface creates a slower game allowing for greater reaction times and the ability to prolong the ball in-play. Clay tennis courts are typically only found at private clubs, making them inaccessible to most people.

Building clay tennis courts here will provide a new public amenity that will serve youth from many of the neighborhoods in south Minneapolis, which amounts to an estimated 20,500 people under 18, according to American Community Survey. These courts will also be accessible by a number of modes of transportation since they are located near bus routes, bike lanes, and off-street walking and biking trails. For those driving, there's also free street parking available nearby.

Programs for youth and seniors are planned for these courts which will provide another avenue of accessibility to this amenity, especially for new players. The youth programs Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center and InnerCity Tennis plan to provide would be free for more than 50% of the participants. This would allow for youth who may experience economic barriers to learn how to play tennis, build skills, and foster enjoyment for the game.

4. Describe whether the project will be located on public lands and if the space will be publicly accessible. If it will not be publicly accessible or will have limited accessibility, explain why.

The project is within public park land owned by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB). Public access to parks and their features is a core part of the MPRB mission and this project would reflect that by providing a place to gather, learn, and play tennis. Like many amenities within public parks in Minneapolis, general use of the clay tennis courts would be free for anyone who would want to use them.

4.2 Statement of need

1. Provide information on the community need for this project, citing specific examples. If available, include data or statistics related to the needs of your community as they relate to the project.

This project is planned as part of the Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Plan, adopted in 2020. Through the multi-year community engagement effort for the plan, there was interest in keeping tennis in the park area that's between South 28th Avenue and Hiawatha Avenue as well as diversifying the recreational offerings. The project location is where tennis courts are planned to remain while the other two locations were planned to transform into a pollinator lawn and bike skills park. Implementing this project brings part of the regional trail plan to fruition by building quality tennis courts the community can use and also brings in a community partner, Minneapolis Community Clay Courts, who will help to support ongoing care, maintenance, and advocacy.

Clay tennis courts are supported by the community and would help to further diversify court sports in this part of the city by providing an opportunity for youth to experience tennis on a surface not typically available outside of private courts. There is also an opportunity for community building through the ongoing care of the courts, which will be supported by Minneapolis Community Clay Courts.

2. Provide information about the project planning process. Include information about how community feedback was collected during the planning process, such as community surveys or listening sessions.

The Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Plan was adopted in 2020 and provides a vision for the park space along Minnehaha Creek between the western city limits and Hiawatha Avenue. Developing this plan was a multi-year effort involving multiple rounds of community engagement as well as engagement with park staff and other agencies. Engagement included attending and hosting events, surveys, focus groups, community advisory committee meetings, regular communications, and project on-site signage. This project was planned as part of this effort.

When conversations started with Minneapolis Community Clay Courts (MCCC) around implementing clay tennis courts at this location, the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association was engaged and is supportive of this project. MCCC has also engaged with community organizations around programming for these courts and potential usage.

3. Explain how grant funding will support the financial needs of the local government unit and/or partner organization.

Minneapolis Community Clay Courts has been working on raising funds to support the implementation of this project and have raised approximately \$163,000 to date. Presently, this grant opportunity is one of the only ways MPRB could support bringing capital funding to construct this project. Funding from this grant will fill the remaining funding gap needed to construct and fully implement this project.

4.3 Community partnerships

1. List all partner organizations that will be involved in project implementation, as applicable. Describe the role of the local government unit (LGU) in the partnership. If the LGU will be serving primarily as the fiscal agent for the project, provide information about the organizational capacity of the partner organization to implement the project.

Minneapolis Community Clay Courts is the primary community partner for this project. Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the Minneapolis Community Clay Courts (MCCC), a nonprofit organization, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2024 to collaboratively implement clay tennis courts at East 46th Street and South 32nd Avenue within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail. Since the MOU was executed, MCCC has raised approximately \$163,000 to build the clay courts to date. The funds they have raised include grants and donations from the following organizations, which are also supportive of these courts: Senior Tennis Players Club, Support the Courts, USTA National, and USTA Northern. In addition to funds from these organizations, there are almost 250 community members to date who have also donated funds.

This will be the second set of public clay tennis courts in Minneapolis, which would both be built through partnership between MCCC and MPRB. MCCC and MPRB have demonstrated success in partnering to build and maintain two clay tennis courts at Waveland Triangle in the Linden Hills neighborhood, which are very popular and well cared for. The success from the first set of clay tennis courts will be replicated and improved upon as needed with this new set of courts along Minnehaha Creek. As with Waveland Triangle, MCCC will maintain the courts. They also plan to run an annual fundraiser and continue to be advocates of bringing clay courts to the general public.

Following implementation of these clay tennis courts, there are a number of community organizations

that plan to program and/or use the courts including Senior Tennis Players Club, USTA Northern, InnerCity Tennis, Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center, and Roosevelt High School tennis. The MPRB would also program these courts for lessons. Many of the organizations listed would have youth specific programs as part of their offerings. The compliment of programming demonstrates how young people will have an opportunity to use the courts in a structured way if they don't play on them during unprogrammed time.

Along with all the organizations supporting the project through funding and programming, the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association is also supportive of the courts. Part of their support will likely include promotion of the courts with the community once they're built.

4.4 Implementation timeline

1. Include a proposed timeline for project implementation and describe how you will ensure this project is successfully completed within this timeframe.

Winter 2026 – Complete final design, preparation and approval of plans, seek permit approvals and preparation of bid documents

Winter/Spring 2026 – Public Bidding and Contract Award

Summer/Fall 2026 – Construct Project

Fall 2026 – Project Completion

This project will be successful within this timeframe because Minneapolis Community Clay Courts and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board will use knowledge from implementing the first set of clay courts in Minneapolis parks and applying it to this implementation project.

2. Provide information on programming events, such as grand openings, ribbon-cutting ceremonies, cultural performances, and/or other public events associated with this project.

Following the completion of the project, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) staff will organize a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony. This event will be coordinated in partnership with Minneapolis Community Clay Courts, the area neighborhood organization, and others involved with project development, including Hennepin County Commissioner, MPRB Superintendent, and MPRB Commissioners.

Once ready, the courts are anticipated to have ongoing programming, including for youth in the summer, as described in project outcomes.

4.5 Project outcomes

1. Describe the intended outcomes of the project. Include information on how the benefits of the grant-funded project will last beyond the grant term period, if applicable.

Since opening in 2021, the Waveland Triangle clay tennis courts have been extremely popular with the community. It's expected these courts will be just as popular immediately after being built and for years to come. Building this project will provide two additional tennis courts for the surrounding community and increase the compliment of court offerings within south Minneapolis. Clay tennis courts are a unique

amenity for the public to access as they are usually only found at private clubs that are not available to everyone. Minneapolis Community Clay Courts has been dedicated to bringing clay courts to the public for a number of years now and have generated a lot of support through their advocacy, fundraising, and care of the Waveland Triangle courts. By having a community organization dedicated to these courts, it's anticipated they will be well maintained and have ongoing support.

In addition to creating a well cared for amenity, these courts will be a place for increasing park activity and building community. These things will be accomplished through care of the courts, which will be a community supported activity. There will also be a number of programming opportunities that will introduce tennis or further build skills by the organizations listed in the community partnerships section. For example, InnerCity Tennis and Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center each anticipate programming the space for 30 youth (5-17) at 5 days/week for 5 weeks. With these two organizations alone, that amounts to approximately 1,500 hours of dedicated youth tennis programming per summer, most of which would be free for the participating youth. Along with these programs, the students on the tennis team at local Roosevelt High School would use the courts as well. To ensure accessibility of the courts to anyone interested in playing on them, the courts will mostly be available for unprogrammed time, when anyone from the community could use the courts for free.

2. Describe sustainability efforts for the project including ongoing operations and maintenance, the environmental impact of the project, and the impact of this project on the community.

Ongoing maintenance of these courts will be performed by volunteers organized by Minneapolis Community Clay Courts (MCCC) and players. Maintenance performed will include rolling the courts, installing lines, clearing debris, managing moisture levels, spreading new clay, and disassembling the court at the end of the season. MCCC and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) will have an agreement in place to formalize these efforts, which will be modeled after the successful agreement in place at the first set of clay tennis courts co-implemented by MCCC and MPRB at Waveland Triangle.

The project will follow all required local, state, and federal standards. It will include stormwater best management practices to treat stormwater, as applicable, from these courts. Clay tennis courts have a more permeable surface compared to that of a typical asphalt tennis court, so the stormwater generated by these courts will be less than a typical court. In addition to stormwater considerations, there may also be an opportunity to reuse rainwater to support some of the court maintenance. MCCC is piloting this at the Waveland Triangle clay courts and could expand that effort to these courts if the pilot is successful.

3. Provide the estimated number of unduplicated young people who will benefit from this project. Include how this number was determined.

The estimated number of unduplicated youth under 18 who will benefit from the project is: 20,508

Since this will be one of two banks of public clay courts in Minneapolis, the extents of the community they will benefit extends beyond the immediate neighborhood the courts are located in. The estimated number above includes estimates of youth under 18 within census tracts in the following south Minneapolis neighborhoods: Bancroft, Bryant, Central, Corcoran, Diamond Lake, Ericsson, Field, Hale, Hiawatha, Howe, Keewaydin, Minnehaha, Morris Park, Northrop, Page, Powderhorn Park, Regina, Standish, and Wenonah. The estimated number above is also meant to reflect the youth who will participate in programs as well. To ensure there isn't duplication, the estimate above doesn't exceed the estimates from the ACS totals.

Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates (2019-2023)

4. Describe how you plan to measure project impact. Include information on your process and method for project evaluation and data collection.

Participation in programs organized for the courts. This would include gathering participant numbers for Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board programs as well as other organizations who plan to program the courts. Additionally, representatives from Minneapolis Community Clay Courts will be out at the courts regularly and can report on observations of frequency of use to the courts. They may also be able to gather feedback on how people feel about the courts being implemented through conversation or surveys.

Section 5: Funding request

5.1 Budget narrative

1. Describe the amount of grant funding you are requesting. Provide a narrative justification for the requested amount.

The MPRB is requesting \$250,000 to help support the funding needed to construct two clay tennis courts at East 46th Street and South 32nd Avenue within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail in Minneapolis. Funding would be used to pay for grading and earthwork, water service, seating, a drainage basin, and fencing around the courts. It will also partially pay for construction costs, including an accessible route to the courts. All of these items are necessary for creating the clay courts and providing an accessible and sustainable community amenity for south Minneapolis youth of today and generations to come. The funds reflect the remaining dollars needed beyond what Minneapolis Community Clay Courts has been able to raise to date. The items requested are informed by experience in implementing two clay tennis courts at Waveland Triangle.

2. If the total project cost exceeds the grant request, explain what costs will not be covered by grant funding.

Costs not covered by this grant include: demolition of the courts, a portion of the construction costs, tennis equipment, equipment to maintain the courts, and soft costs.

Section 6: Project budget

6.1 Project budget

1. Complete the project budget table below:
 - A. Identify your budget category in section A of the table below. Common budget categories include contracted services, site preparation, construction, installation, staffing, certification fees, participation fees, supplies and equipment, marketing and promotion, food and beverage, transportation, and signage. If planned expenses do not fall into any of these categories, please write "miscellaneous."
 - B. Identify your itemized expenses within each budget category in section B of the table below, including descriptions of the items for which you will be requesting reimbursement.

- C. Include the total estimated cost for each budget category, rounding up or down to the nearest dollar amount, when appropriate.
2. Provide a narrative justification for budget expenses that explains how these expenses are allowable, necessary, and reasonable:
 - a. *Allowable*: The listed items are consistent with Section 1.2 of the RFA.
 - b. *Necessary*: The expenses are important to the success of the project.
 - c. *Reasonable*: The expenses reflect fair market prices.

All of the listed items are allowable because Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is a LGU within Hennepin County and the clay courts will be an amenity for young people and they will mostly reside in Hennepin County.

The expenses within the budget are necessary and critical to the success of the project because they represent the remaining funds required to implement the project beyond the funds raised by Minneapolis Community Clay Courts (MCCC). Without this funding, MPRB and MCCC will need to continue seeking other funding opportunities, which will likely result in a delay in the project timeline outlined in section 4.4.

The expenses are reasonable and informed by previous project costs.

Project Budget			
A. Budget category		B. Description	Cost
EXAMPLE	Supplies and equipment	a. Paint Brushes, 4 sets at \$12/set b. Acrylic paint, 10 colors at \$5/paint c. Paint easels, 10 sets at \$20/set	\$98
1	Construction	Partial costs for constructing the courts	\$97,000
2	Site preparation	Grading and earthwork	\$51,000
3	Installation	New water service connection	\$36,000
4	Installation	New fencing around the courts	\$20,000
5	Installation	Drainage basin	\$20,000
6	Installation	Seating	\$10,000
7	Installation	Accessible connection to the courts	\$16,000
8	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
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20	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
TOTAL GRANT REQUEST			\$250,000

6.2 Additional funding

List additional funding sources such as matching funds or donations that are contributing to this project.

Additional Funding			
Matching Fund Source		Description	Amount
1	Community Donations	Minneapolis Community Clay Courts is undergoing a fundraising effort to support the implementation of this project. This is what has been raised to date.	\$61,442.00
2	Senior Tennis Players Club	Click or tap here to enter text.	\$3,000.00
3	Support the Courts	Click or tap here to enter text.	\$3,000.00
4	USTA National, Northern, and Northern Section	This is for both funding provided through grants and employee matches.	\$95,525.00
5	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FUNDING			\$162,967.00

Application checklist

Before submitting your application to the [Supplier Portal](#), check that you have completed all sections of the application and have a signed attestation letter:

- ☒ Completed application
 - ☒ Applicant Information
 - ☒ Project Summary
 - ☒ Project Proposal
 - ☒ Funding Request
 - ☒ Project Budget
- ☒ Signed attestation letter on LGU letterhead

Application affirmation:

By completing the boxes below, I acknowledge that the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also acknowledge that this application has been reviewed and approved by the local government unit (LGU) signatory authority who has provided their consent for this application submission.

Grant applicant name Bianca Paz	Professional organization and title Design Project Manager
Phone 612-230-6486	Email bpaz@minneapolisparcs.org



Minneapolis
Park & Recreation Board

September 25, 2025

Administrative Offices
2117 West River Road North
Minneapolis, MN 55411-2227

Northside Operations Center
4022 1/2 North Washington Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55412-1742

Southside Operations Center
3800 Bryant Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55409-1000

Phone
612-230-6400
Fax
612-230-6500
www.minneapolisparcs.org

Hennepin County
Youth Activities Grants
300 South 6th Street, MC 683B
Minneapolis, MN 55487

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter serves as an attestation to the following:

☒ The local government unit (LGU) has reviewed this Application and believes it is consistent with its program goals. The LGU is prepared to be the fiscal agent for the award, to disburse the funds, and ensure the funds are used as listed in this Application.

☒ Disclosure of any personal or organizational conflicts of interest in accordance with the Solicitation:

☒ No conflicts of interest

☐ The following conflict(s) and plans to mitigate conflict(s): Click or tap here to enter text.

President
Cathy Abene

Vice President
Steffanie Musich

Commissioners
Becky Alper
Meg Forney
Billy Menz
Tom Olsen
Charles Rucker
Elizabeth Shaffer
Becka Thompson

Superintendent
Al Bangoura

Secretary to the Board
Jennifer B. Ringold

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ringold, Secretary to the Board
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Cathy Abene, President
MPRB Board of Commissioners

2024



Gold Medal
Winner

Accredited



Since 2010