



CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA

Council Discretionary Grant Applications

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

City Council Meeting

May 5, 2025



Introduction

The purpose of today's agenda item is to:

- Summarize the discretionary grant process
- Review grant applications received
- Present staff's recommendation for funding
- Request Council direction on:
 - Total grant funding amount
 - Distribution of grant awards



Grant Program Overview

- Council adopted a Discretionary Grant Policy in 2017 to guide the allocation of discretionary grants.
- Eligibility Criteria:
 - Located in Carmel or serve Carmel residents.
 - 501(c) nonprofit or Carmel school.
 - Provide direct community services.
 - No outstanding City debt.
 - Not financially dependent on City.



Grant Application Summary

- The application period ran from February 5 to March 21, 2025.
- Outreach: City website, Friday Letter, Pine Cone, targeted emails.
- 19 applications received requesting a total of **\$53,600**.
- Staff reviewed applications and found all to be eligible.
- A preliminary budget of **\$36,000** is proposed for grant funding, subject to Council approval.



Grant Categories

Applications received were grouped into 6 categories:

1. Youth Programs and Education
2. Community Safety and Emergency Services
3. Housing and Social Services
4. Community Engagement
5. Art and Cultural Programs
6. Veterans and Seniors Programs



Staff's Recommendation

- Allocate **\$36,000** in the FY 2025-2026 budget for Discretionary Grants.
- Distribute **\$30,000** among 19 applicants as follows:

Category	Total Amount	# of Applicants	Amount per Applicant
Youth Programs and Education	\$6,000	6	\$1,000
Community Safety and Emergency Services	\$6,000	3	\$2,000
Housing and Social Services	\$6,000	2	\$3,000
Community Engagement	\$4,000	2	\$2,000
Art and Cultural Programs	\$4,000	4	\$2,000
Veterans and Seniors	\$4,000	2	\$2,000



Next Steps

Staff is requesting direction from Council to:

1. Confirm the **total amount** to allocate for FY 25-26 Discretionary Grants; and
2. Provide direction on grant distribution to eligible applicants.