

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
Report for the Village Council Meeting
10/5/2021

SUBJECT:	SUBMITTED BY:
Openlands Grant: Public Works Rain Garden and Natural Areas	Andy Sikich Public Works Director

SYNOPSIS

A resolution has been prepared accepting the receipt of a grant from ComEd/Openlands for the installation of a rain garden and native plantings at Downers Grove Public Works in the amount of \$10,000.00.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

The goals for 2021-2023 include *Steward of Financial, Environmental and Neighborhood Sustainability* and *Top Quality Infrastructure*.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed FY22 budget includes funding for the Village's share of this project in the Stormwater Fund.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval on the October 5, 2021 consent agenda.

BACKGROUND

A ComEd/Openlands grant for \$10,000 was awarded to the Village in July 2021. The grant covers up to 50% of the cost to convert existing turf grass at the Downers Grove Public Works facility to a rain garden with native plantings, educational signage, and flowering accent areas.

The area will serve as a living exhibit to educate and inspire residents for their own yards. The goal is to promote long-term, community-based conservation initiatives with native plants and educational signage with high visibility. Additional benefits include improved water and air quality, increased habitat and biodiversity, and reduced need for pesticides, herbicides, and mowing.

Additional information including planting list and plans, proposed sign graphics, and more will be determined over the next few months and will be presented to the Village Council at a later date. This work is expected to take place in spring 2022, and staff anticipates that the total project cost will be just over \$20,000.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution
Grant Award Letter

Receipt of Funds Letter

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION
IN THE COMED GREEN REGION PROGRAM FOR THE
PUBLIC WORKS RAIN GARDEN AND NATURAL AREAS PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove (the “Village”) desires to undertake the Public Works Rain Garden and Natural Areas project as part of the 2021 ComEd Green Region Program; and

WHEREAS, the Village has applied for and been awarded a grant for the ComEd Green Region Program for the purpose of carrying out this project; and

WHEREAS, the Village has received and understands the current ComEd Green Region Program Guidelines.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Village Council hereby approves this project and authorizes acceptance of the grant award from the ComEd Green Region Program in the amount of \$10,000.00 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Village commits to the expenditure of matching funds in the amount of \$11,317.40 necessary for the project’s success.

1. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed.

2. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage as provided by law.

Mayor

Passed:

Attest: _____
Village Clerk



Suite 1650 | 25 East Washington Street | Chicago, IL 60602-1708 | Tel: 312-863-6250 | Fax: 312-863-6251 | www.openlands.org

July 9, 2021

Stephanie Graves, Staff Engineer
Village of Downers Grove
5101 Walnut Avenue
Downers Grove, IL 60515

Dear Stephanie Graves,

On behalf of ComEd and Openlands, I am pleased to inform you that the 2021 ComEd Green Region Program has approved a grant of \$10000 to Village of Downers Grove in support of the project entitled "Public Works Rain Garden and Natural Areas."

The grant is subject to the terms in this letter and the Green Region Program Guidelines. The Guidelines and other grantee resources are available at www.openlands.org/planning/greenregion/resources/.

As acceptance of this contribution, please complete the following requirements by Wednesday, August 16, 2021 by via the submittable platform:

- 1) A completed W9 form (attached)
- 2) A receipt of funds letter. The letter must include the following: a) acknowledgment of the receipt of this grant, b) amount of the contribution, and c) if true, a statement that no goods or services were received in connection with the grant. A template letter is available at the above web address.
- 3) A resolution approving the use of funds for the project. ****Please note: The resolution must be completed and approved BEFORE the project begins.** A template resolution is available at the above web address.

Note that all documents listed above must be uploaded to the web portal found at this web address <https://openlands.submittable.com/submit> under the "Additional document upload for 2021 grantees" section. You will need to use your submittable log in to upload documents.

Additionally, please note that **each grantee is responsible for submitting a final grant report by the deadline of March 17, 2023.** A final grant report form is available for download at the

above web address. We encourage grantees to review the final grant report requirements well in advance of the deadline. Please note that digital files of the ComEd logo will be sent to you by email for your use on signage and materials related to the project.

ComEd will be contacting you to discuss public recognition of your project and possible volunteer opportunities for ComEd employees. Please contact Evelyn Rodriguez at evelyn.rodriguez@comed.com, with any questions about these opportunities.

For all other questions about the grant award, feel free to contact the Green Region program administrators at greenregion@openlands.org. Congratulations and our best wishes for your project's continued success.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald W. Adelman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gerald" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Adelman".

Gerald W. Adelman, President & CEO

Enclosures: W9 Form, Check # 4046



www.downers.us

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE
CENTER**

630.434.CALL (2255)

CIVIC CENTER

801 Burlington Avenue

Downers Grove

Illinois 60515-4782

630.434.5500

TDD 630.434.5511

FAX 630.434.5571

**FIRE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATION**

5420 Main Street

Downers Grove

Illinois 60515-4834

630.434.5980

FAX 630.434.5998

POLICE DEPARTMENT

825 Burlington Avenue

Downers Grove

Illinois 60515-4783

630.434.5600

FAX 630.434.5690

**PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT**

5101 Walnut Avenue

Downers Grove

Illinois 60515-4046

630.434.5460

FAX 630.434.5495

August 16, 2021

ComEd Green Region Program Administrator
c/o Openlands
25 E. Washington Street, Suite 1650
Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter serves as a receipt of the \$10,000 grant to the Village of Downers Grove for the ComEd Green Region Program. The grant directly supports the "Public Works Rain Garden and Natural Areas" project.

No goods or services were received in connection with this grant.

Sincerely,

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE

Judy Buttny
Finance Director