

Background

In November 2024, as part of the 2025 budget adjustments, Calgary City Council approved up to \$2 million for the Civic Partner Community Safety Grant. The Community Safety Grant Program provides targeted support for The City of Calgary's Civic Partners, as defined in the [Investing in Partnerships Policy](#), operating in the downtown to address safety incidents and related escalated safety issues in the areas and community spaces surrounding their facility that impact the safety of visitors and Calgarians.

To disburse this targeted base grant funding, The City is undertaking a targeted call for applications for funding requests for 2025 and 2026. This guide outlines the key principles and approaches for the Community Safety Grant Program.

How to Apply

1. All eligible Civic Partners will receive an email with a link to the application. If you think your organization is eligible, and you have not received a link, please contact your Civic Partnership Consultant.
2. Review the guide in full.
3. Complete the online grant application and submit any required documents by midnight on Friday, December 20, 2025.
4. Provide any additional documents that may be requested during the review process.
5. Late applications will only be accepted if an extension is requested and approved in writing in advance of the application deadline. Information submitted in grant applications may be made public.
6. If you have any questions, please contact your Administrative Relationship Contact (i.e. Civic Partnership Consultant or other partnership liaison) or email partnerships@calgary.ca with "Community Safety Grant Application" in the subject line.

Application Deadline

Applications and all required documents must be submitted by midnight on Friday, December 20, 2025. Late applications will only be accepted if an extension is requested and approved in writing in advance of the application deadline. Information submitted in grant applications may be made public.

Eligibility

Funding is available for current City of Calgary Civic Partners as defined in the [Investing in Partnerships Policy](#) that are operating in the downtown and impact community spaces in and around their facilities and are in good standing with The City. If you are unsure if your organization is eligible, please reach out to your Administrative Relationship Contact, or email partnerships@calgary.ca.

Program Focus

This Community Safety Grant Program focuses on supporting Civic Partners in the downtown to positively affecting safety in the areas and community spaces surrounding their facility to help enhance overall safety throughout Calgary for all Calgarians.

Ineligible Expenses

Grant funds cannot be used for any of the following costs:

- Increased staff compensation.
- To increase reserve funds.
- Ongoing capital maintenance or lifecycle costs.
- GST payable.
- Expenses that are already eligible for reimbursement through a different government program.
- For initiatives or programs that do not directly impact and improve safety in the areas and community spaces surrounding a Partner's facility in the downtown to help enhance overall safety for all Calgarians and visitors.

Application Review & Criteria

City Administration will review all applications using fair and consistent review process based on the following criteria that align with the approval by Council:

- Location of the facility in the downtown, or delivery of positive results for the downtown.
- Clear demonstration that there is a need to address safety of visitors and Calgarians in and around the Partner's facility/facilities and/or the surrounding community spaces.
- Quantity and magnitude of safety incidents in and around the Partner's facility/facilities in the downtown.
- Demonstration that the funding will contribute to one or more of the following results:
 - improved safety in the areas immediately surrounding a Partner's facility/facilities,
 - improved safety in the community spaces immediately surrounding a Partner's facility/facilities,
 - increase safety of visitors to a Partner's facility, or
 - Enhanced overall safety for Calgarians.
- Demonstration that the organization has challenges using existing cash flow, reserves or funding from any related foundations to meet the proposed initiative or work.
- A clear plan and budget that demonstrates that funding will be fully spent in the 2025 and 2026 calendar year.
- A plan to sustain the initiative or work if required, recognizing that this is base funding for 2025 and 2026.

Funding Decisions

It is anticipated that funding decisions will be confirmed by the end of January 2025. All applicants will be notified on the outcome of their application.



Reporting

Grant recipients will be required to provide reporting about the use and impact of the funds as part of the Civic Partner Annual Report in 2026 and 2027.

In an effort to maintain transparency and accountability, The City will make the names of all recipients and funding allocation amounts available publicly.

Agreements & Payments

All funding will require the execution of a formal grant agreement between The City of Calgary and the applicant, or an amendment of an existing funding agreement. Payments schedules will depend on the partner and type of funding required.

Return of Funds

If funding is not expended for the stated purposes by calendar year end 2025 and 2026, the recipient must notify The City, and The City may require all or a portion of the funds be returned, or may approve the carry forward of the funds into the following calendar year for the approved purposes.