

#12

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 2 (Web Link)

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Q1

Please tell us about yourself and your community group.

Name	Lea Blubaugh, Garden Manager
Name of Community Group	Dale Street Community Garden ("the Garden")
Address	
City/Town	
State/Province	
ZIP/Postal Code	
Email Address	
Phone Number	

Q2

Name of Project
Pergola and Seating Area Expansion in the Dale Street Community Garden

Q3

Location of Project
The project will be on the eastern side of the Dale Street Community Garden located at 65 Dale Street in the Hume Springs neighborhood of the City of Alexandria. The Garden is part of Four Mile Run Park.

Q4

Please add a map and outline of project location
Dale%20Street%20Community%20Garden%20Map.docx (9.2MB)

Q5

What is the total cost of the project?

\$15,917

Q6

Could you explain the steps or factors involved in creating the cost estimate?

The garden board prepared the cost estimate based on publicly available data from retail establishments and our previous experience contracting landscaping support. The cost estimate includes materials and labor to prepare the site, purchase of the pergolas, picnic tables and construction materials, installation of the new seating area, and the purchase of decorative plants. It also includes a 15% contingency to account for price changes between application and receipt of grant funds.

Q7

What will be your group's monetary contribution?

\$6,931

Q8

Groups may count in-kind physical labor and professional services towards the match. In-Kind professional services cannot exceed 15% of the total project budget and donated professional services must be relevant to the project and proportionate to its needs. Will your community group count in-kind services towards the project? If yes, how? Please explain your strategy.

The Garden board, general membership and Hume Springs Civic Association participants will volunteer time towards the execution and maintenance of the project. We estimate volunteers will contribute 80 hours at an hourly rate of \$15 for a total of \$1,200. This amount is included in the estimated total cost of the project. See question 13 for more information on the expected volunteer labor.

Q9

What is the monetary funding match you are seeking from the City?

\$8,131

Q10

Proposed Idea (will be evaluated for up to 30 points) Please provide information on your proposed idea in approximately 200 words. Applicants must demonstrate the project's alignment to the RPCA Strategic Plan. The proposal must include a detailed work plan, explain how the project will: Connect the Community: Our parks and facilities are the public's common ground that equitably bring together our vibrant and diverse community. Invest in the Environment: Our commitment to natural spaces provides physical, mental, and community benefits, while offering opportunities to engage with and conserve our natural resources. Improve Well-being: Our programs and facilities motivate the community to make healthy choices and live active lifestyles through all stages of life and at all levels of ability. If applicable to the project site location, projects should also show consistency with the Citywide Park Improvement Plan (2014), Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan (2016), Pocket Park Improvement Plan (2020) or other City planning documents.

The Garden hosts several formal community activities each year and also serves as an informal gathering place for community members. However, it has minimal seating, with just one bench and one picnic table under a small pergola. We propose to increase the gathering space by expanding the pergola area to approximately three times its current size, adding two ADA accessible picnic tables, and planting the expanded pergola area with fruiting and/or native plants. The existing picnic table is heavily used by a wide range of community members, so we are confident that additional seating will provide more opportunities to connect the community. The plantings will provide a beautiful and natural place to sit and engage with the environment, and vines such as grapes and passionfruit will encourage well-being through the consumption of fruit.

This project aligns with goal 14 of the Four Mile Run Park section of the Citywide Park Improvement Plan (2014), to establish a community garden and "create a great space for bridging new relationships in the community," and objective 4.1 of the Citywide Park Improvement Plan (2014), to "provide public spaces that facilitate community gathering and places for interaction."

Workplan:

November 2025: Funds awarded

Jan - March 2026: Garden board procures materials and contractor

April - June 2026: Contractor installs pergolas, Garden board plans joint workday with the Hume Springs Civic Association (HSCA), Garden members and community assemble picnic tables and install plantings

July - September 2026: Garden board and HSCA host a neighborhood event to launch the new picnic area

Q11

Neighborhood Involvement/Community Building (will be evaluated for up to 30 Points) Please provide information on how you will involve the community in the project fundraising and/or implementation. Applicants must demonstrate the project's effectiveness by including as many diverse groups and individuals as possible and should reflect the demographics of the neighborhood/community, including youth, seniors, renters, homeowners, and business organizations. Documentation of support from community associations and/or stakeholders is encouraged. (approximately 200 words)

This project was designed by the Garden board with input from the Hume Springs Civic Association (HSCA) to meet community needs. The Garden board represents Garden members, 65% of which live within half a mile of the garden, and 16% of which are low-income members receiving membership fee assistance. The HSCA is open to all residents of the Hume Springs neighborhood, and conducts outreach in English and Spanish to facilitate participation from all community members.

Project implementation will bring together community members through a joint Garden and HSCA workday to assemble the pergola and picnic tables. The Garden and HSCA will also host a community event to inaugurate the new area once it is completed. Community members will use the new seating area during regular formal community events such as National Night Out, the Hume Springs Garden Walk, the Music in the Garden event featuring the Alexandria City High School Orchestra, the Garden's annual pizza making party, and the Garden's all hands volunteer workdays (up to six times per year). It will also be used informally by groups and individuals looking for a place to gather and relax. The Garden's location near Cora Kelly Elementary School means the seating will be a convenient option for children and young families who may not otherwise be served by the existing community garden.

Q12

Please upload documentation of community support, if available.

Letter%20of%20Support DSCG%20CMF%20Application.pdf (67.3KB)

Q13

Project Resources & Readiness (will be evaluated for up to 30 points) Please explain the availability of the project's financial and labor resources. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to obtain widespread and diverse match contributions of cash, volunteer labor, donated professional services, and donated materials as indicators of community support. Community groups must show that they can raise their matching funds within 12 months. They must also show a project timeline. Proposals that demonstrate a maintenance assistance plan will receive higher consideration. (approximately 200 words)

Volunteer labor:

Garden members are required to attend three all hands gardening events per year and to complete six volunteer hours maintaining garden common areas. Members perform over 200 volunteer hours per year under these requirements, and the Garden was a 2023 Alexandria Beautification Commission award winner as a result of this labor. If this application is approved, Garden board members will volunteer their time to procure minor materials such as plantings and picnic tables and to hire and oversee a contractor to construct the expanded pergola. The board will also organize the wider membership to assemble picnic tables and install plantings using the Garden's established workdays and volunteer requirements.

Cash:

The Garden collects annual membership fees for the maintenance and improvement of the community garden. It also collects additional fees from any members who do not complete the required volunteer service. As of May 2025, the Garden has the cash on hand to support the Garden's financial contribution to the proposed project, absent any future fundraising activities.

Maintenance:

As part of its existing volunteer requirements, garden members maintain the current pergola plantings and keep the pergola area clean and litter free. The expanded pergola will also be maintained by member volunteers. Any maintenance costs will be paid by the Garden using funds collected through annual membership fees.

Q14

Outcomes (will be evaluated for up to 10 points) Applicants should provide their project goals and objectives. Please identify how you will measure project success with specific outcomes, both tangible and/or intangible results.

The project goal is to create a space for community gathering that beautifies the garden and highlights native plants and healthy fruits.

Tangible outcomes:

Two picnic tables and an expanded pergola area will be installed.

Plantings around the pergola including native plants and fruiting vines will be installed following pergola completion.

The new seating will be used during regular formal community events (active use), such as National Night Out, the Hume Springs Garden Walk, the Music in the Garden event featuring the Alexandria City High School Orchestra, the Garden's annual pizza making party, and the Garden's all hands volunteer workdays (up to six times per year). It will also be used informally (passive use) by groups and individuals looking for a place to gather and relax.

Outcomes one and two will be tracked and measured through progress reports and invoices submitted as part of overall project progression tracking. Active use under outcome three can be measured using communications on the HSCA and Garden listservs. Passive use will not be measured.

Intangible:

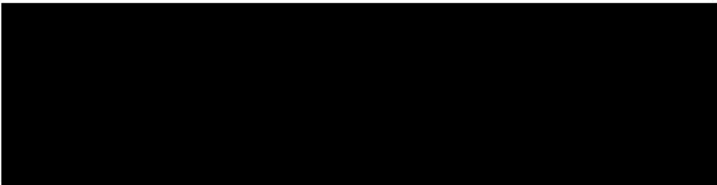
While measuring intangible outcomes is out of the scope of this project, we expect the completion of the project will contribute to the following outcomes.

Native plantings will create habitat for pollinators and encourage appreciation of local biodiversity.

The seating area will serve as a "third place" where neighbors can gather and build community.

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Q1

Please tell us about yourself and your community group.

Name	Jesse O'Connell
Name of Community Group	Alexandria Little League
Address	[Redacted]
City/Town	[Redacted]
State/Province	[Redacted]
ZIP/Postal Code	[Redacted]
Email Address	[Redacted]
Phone Number	[Redacted]

Q2

Name of Project
Scoreboard at Brenman Softball Field

Q3

Location of Project
Ben Brenman Softball Field

Q4

Please add a map and outline of project location
Brenman.jpg (107.5KB)

Q5

What is the total cost of the project?

\$30,000

Q6

Could you explain the steps or factors involved in creating the cost estimate?

We requested a quote from the vendor we previously worked with to install a scoreboard at Brenman Baseball

Q7

What will be your group's monetary contribution?

\$15,000

Q8

Respondent skipped this question

Groups may count in-kind physical labor and professional services towards the match. In-Kind professional services cannot exceed 15% of the total project budget and donated professional services must be relevant to the project and proportionate to its needs. Will your community group count in-kind services towards the project? If yes, how? Please explain your strategy.

Q9

What is the monetary funding match you are seeking from the City?

\$15,000

Q10

Proposed Idea (will be evaluated for up to 30 points)Please provide information on your proposed idea in approximately 200 words. Applicants must demonstrate the project's alignment to the RPCA Strategic Plan. The proposal must include a detailed work plan, explain how the project will: Connect the Community: Our parks and facilities are the public's common ground that equitably bring together our vibrant and diverse community. Invest in the Environment: Our commitment to natural spaces provides physical, mental, and community benefits, while offering opportunities to engage with and conserve our natural resources. Improve Well-being: Our programs and facilities motivate the community to make healthy choices and live active lifestyles through all stages of life and at all levels of ability. If applicable to the project site location, projects should also show consistency with the Citywide Park Improvement Plan (2014), Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan (2016), Pocket Park Improvement Plan (2020) or other City planning documents.

Under the "connect the community" theme, we seek to improve Brenman Softball field by installing a scoreboard. This will make the game play experience more satisfying for players and spectators alike, and will allow us to use the field for a wider variety of competitive events, which will in turn better activate the field and the surrounding area.

Q11

Neighborhood Involvement/Community Building (will be evaluated for up to 30 Points) Please provide information on how you will involve the community in the project fundraising and/or implementation. Applicants must demonstrate the project's effectiveness by including as many diverse groups and individuals as possible and should reflect the demographics of the neighborhood/community, including youth, seniors, renters, homeowners, and business organizations. Documentation of support from community associations and/or stakeholders is encouraged. (approximately 200 words)

Alexandria Little League is the largest volunteer-run, non-profit youth sports organization in Alexandria. We are committed to increasing access to the "diamond sports" of baseball and softball all across the city. We're proud to share that during our 2024 Spring season we fielded 34 baseball teams (a total of more than 500 players) and 7 softball teams (a total of more than 90 players). These teams provide opportunities for players ages 8-16 to play baseball and softball and build resilience, friendships, and relationships between families across our community.

Q12

Respondent skipped this question

Please upload documentation of community support, if available.

Q13

Project Resources & Readiness (will be evaluated for up to 30 points) Please explain the availability of the project's financial and labor resources. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to obtain widespread and diverse match contributions of cash, volunteer labor, donated professional services, and donated materials as indicators of community support. Community groups must show that they can raise their matching funds within 12 months. They must also show a project timeline. Proposals that demonstrate a maintenance assistance plan will receive higher consideration. (approximately 200 words)

Alexandria Little League is sustained through support from local sponsors. We have experience fundraising in our community and the region in support of not only our regular season operations, but to support our hosting of state regional baseball tournaments (2024) and softball tournaments (2025). The project timeline would be similar to the installation of the scoreboard at Brenman Baseball, which the city is familiar with and partnered on.

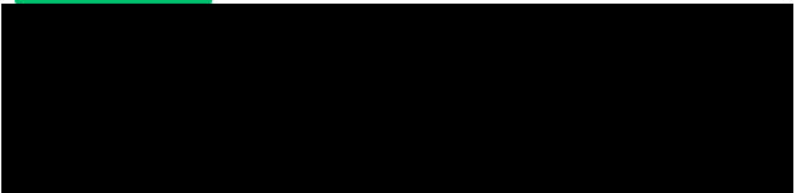
Q14

Outcomes (will be evaluated for up to 10 points) Applicants should provide their project goals and objectives. Please identify how you will measure project success with specific outcomes, both tangible and/or intangible results.

An operational scoreboard in use for games that provides a great player and fan experience.

#15

COMPLETE



Page 1

Q1

Please tell us about yourself and your community group.

Name	Eli Fathelbab
Name of Community Group	Skate and Donate
Address	[Redacted]
City/Town	[Redacted]
State/Province	[Redacted]
ZIP/Postal Code	[Redacted]
Email Address	[Redacted]
Phone Number	[Redacted]

Q2

Name of Project
Skate and Donate - Duke Upgrade

Q3

Location of Project
Schuyler Hamilton Jones Skatepark- 3540 Wheeler Ave. Alexandria, VA 22304

Q4

Please add a map and outline of project location
Schuyler%20Hamilton%20Location.docx (287.9KB)

Q5

What is the total cost of the project?

\$12,000

Q6

Could you explain the steps or factors involved in creating the cost estimate?

To create the cost estimate, I did research by talking to skaters who have built parks or worked on skatepark improvements, and I looked at pricing from companies that make professional skate obstacles. I also considered the current condition of our park and what changes would have the biggest impact with a smaller budget.

The plan includes adding metal grind rails, ledges, small quarter pipes, and other unique obstacles, each estimated to cost between \$1,000 and \$1,500 depending on the size, materials, and installation needs.

Our total project budget is \$12,000 \$6,000 from community fundraising and \$6,000 from the City match. Here's how we plan to use the money:

1. Remove broken or unsafe obstacles This will be done with help from volunteers and possibly light contractor assistance. (Estimated cost: \$1,000)
2. Reposition the remaining obstacles to create a better and safer flow. This may involve patching, re-anchoring, and minor repairs. (Estimated cost: \$2,000 \$3,000)
3. Purchase and install 5 new features like grind rails, ledges, and small ramps. At \$1,000 \$1,500 each, we can add multiple quality elements to improve the skate experience. (Estimated cost: \$7,500 \$8,000)

These numbers are flexible depending on what deals or donations we can secure, and I'll keep working with local businesses and volunteers to stretch the funds as far as possible.

Q7

What will be your group's monetary contribution?

We have already raised \$1,493.84 with ACT for Alexandria and plan to raise up to \$6,000 total through the skate community, family, friends and business sponsors

Q8

Groups may count in-kind physical labor and professional services towards the match. In-Kind professional services cannot exceed 15% of the total project budget and donated professional services must be relevant to the project and proportionate to its needs. Will your community group count in-kind services towards the project? If yes, how? Please explain your strategy.

There could be in-kind physical labor for a portion that involved relocating obstacles, but at this time we expect to raise the entire amount of \$6,000 from donations to be used for all aspects of the improvements.

Q9

What is the monetary funding match you are seeking from the City?

We are requesting a \$6,000 funding match from the City of Alexandria through the Community Matching Fund. We have already raised \$1,493.84 and are committed to raising the remaining \$4,506.16 in 2025 to meet the full \$6,000 match. This will give us a total project budget of \$12,000 to improve the Schuyler Hamilton Jones Skatepark.

Q10

Proposed Idea (will be evaluated for up to 30 points) Please provide information on your proposed idea in approximately 200 words. Applicants must demonstrate the project's alignment to the RPCA Strategic Plan. The proposal must include a detailed work plan, explain how the project will: Connect the Community: Our parks and facilities are the public's common ground that equitably bring together our vibrant and diverse community. Invest in the Environment: Our commitment to natural spaces provides physical, mental, and community benefits, while offering opportunities to engage with and conserve our natural resources. Improve Well-being: Our programs and facilities motivate the community to make healthy choices and live active lifestyles through all stages of life and at all levels of ability. If applicable to the project site location, projects should also show consistency with the Citywide Park Improvement Plan (2014), Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan (2016), Pocket Park Improvement Plan (2020) or other City planning documents.

Submitted by: Eli Fathelbab

Responsible Adult: Sally Hurley (Parent/Project Support)

Hi, my name is Eli Fathelbab. I'm 17 and have been skating at Schuyler Hamilton Jones Skatepark for most of my life. It's a space where skaters of all ages, backgrounds, and skill levels connect, stay active, and express themselves. But the park is worn down—some ramps are unsafe, and the layout no longer flows well.

Through the Community Matching Fund, I'm raising \$6,000 (with \$1,493.84 already raised through ACT for Alexandria), to be matched by the City for a total of \$12,000. The funds will:

Remove unsafe, broken obstacles

Reposition existing features for better flow

Add up to 5 new, high-quality elements like grind rails, ledges, and small quarter pipes (\$1,000–\$1,500 each)

I've previously worked with the City to install a donation box at the park and created www.skateanddonate.com to share updates and collect support. We're also setting up a 501(c)(3) using MightyCause to officially manage fundraising.

This project will connect the community, revitalize a public space, and improve well-being through active recreation. It will also lay the foundation for a future full renovation of the skatepark—led by and for the community.

Q11

Neighborhood Involvement/Community Building (will be evaluated for up to 30 Points) Please provide information on how you will involve the community in the project fundraising and/or implementation. Applicants must demonstrate the project's effectiveness by including as many diverse groups and individuals as possible and should reflect the demographics of the neighborhood/community, including youth, seniors, renters, homeowners, and business organizations. Documentation of support from community associations and/or stakeholders is encouraged. (approximately 200 words)

Community support is a big part of this project. I've already raised \$1,493.84 through ACT for Alexandria and will continue fundraising through local events, social media, and my website www.skateanddonate.com. I'm also setting up a 501(c)(3) to help with secure donations.

I plan to involve the community by organizing clean-up days and volunteer work for removing and repositioning existing obstacles. I'll reach out to skate shops, local businesses, schools, and neighborhood associations for support and donations. I've already hosted skate pop-up events that brought out skaters, parents, and community members, and I'll continue using those events to promote the project and get more people involved.

This project reflects the diversity of the skatepark itself skaters range in age, race, background, and ability. We'll promote the project and work to include youth, parents, renters, homeowners, and small businesses. I'm also reaching out to local organizations like past skatepark sponsors and Alexandria community leaders for endorsements and involvement.

With broad support, we'll make this a true community-led effort that brings people together while improving a space many of us use and love.

Q12

Respondent skipped this question

Please upload documentation of community support, if available.

Q13

Project Resources & Readiness (will be evaluated for up to 30 points) Please explain the availability of the project's financial and labor resources. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to obtain widespread and diverse match contributions of cash, volunteer labor, donated professional services, and donated materials as indicators of community support. Community groups must show that they can raise their matching funds within 12 months. They must also show a project timeline. Proposals that demonstrate a maintenance assistance plan will receive higher consideration. (approximately 200 words)

We've already raised \$1,493.84 through ACT for Alexandria and will raise the remaining \$4,506.16 in 2025 through community events, local business partnerships, and online donations via our new 501(c)(3) platform on MightyCause. With momentum already built through my website www.skateanddonate.com, I'm confident we'll meet our goal within 12 months.

In addition to cash donations, we'll have strong volunteer labor support. I've already organized pop-up skate events and plan to continue to support city officials with their efforts to address skatepark improvements. Skaters and parents have already offered to help, and I'm recruiting more volunteers through local schools, businesses, and skate shops.

I'm reaching out to skatepark builders and local contractors to obtain formal proposals for construction and installation. We'll also request in-kind material donations like paint, hardware, and tools from local hardware stores if that is needed beyond the funds being raised.

The project timeline includes fundraising through 2025, construction and installation in Summer/Spring 2026, and a community event in late Spring Introducing Newly Upgrade skatepark.

Q14

Outcomes (will be evaluated for up to 10 points) Applicants should provide their project goals and objectives. Please identify how you will measure project success with specific outcomes, both tangible and/or intangible results.

The main goal of this project is to make Schuyler Hamilton Jones Skatepark safer, more functional, and more fun — while building stronger community involvement around the space.

Tangible outcomes include:

Removal of 2–3 broken or unsafe obstacles

Repositioning of all remaining obstacles for better layout and flow

Installation of 3–5 new professionally built features like grind rails, ledges, and small quarter pipes

Completion of the improvements within 12 months

Participation of at least 50 volunteers and engagement of 5+ local businesses or organizations

Intangible outcomes include:

Increased community ownership and pride in the skatepark

New relationships built between skaters, parents, local businesses, and the City

Greater visibility and use of the skatepark by youth and families

Establishment of a 501(c)(3) and ongoing donation platform to support future projects

We'll measure success by comparing before-and-after photos, tracking volunteer participation, documenting donations and funds raised, and collecting feedback from skaters and community members. We'll also host a post-project event to celebrate the upgrades and gather community input for long-term improvements. Overall, success will mean a more active, inclusive, and safer skatepark for Alexandria.
