



Community Greening Funding Initiative FAQs

1. Who can I reach out to for questions?

All questions can be directed to Community.Greening@nypa.gov.

2. How do organizations apply to the RFA?

Applications must be submitted to Community.Greening@nypa.gov no later than October 16 (the listing is linked here: [NY Power Authority](#)).

3. You don't mention biodiversity deliverables, although biodiversity improvement, through scientific surveys of bird and wildlife use, is an important indicator of ecosystem restoration. Is this considered eligible deliverable?

Biodiversity can absolutely be included if it ties clearly to the Community Greening Funding Initiative program goals and evaluation criteria. If biodiversity outcomes support stormwater control, heat mitigation, or other program-aligned objectives, they are appropriate to include as deliverables.

4. Will projects that maintain existing greenspace be considered, or should we focus only on expanding or adding new space?

Both maintenance of existing greenspace and creation/expansion of new greenspace will be considered.

5. Our organization funds and supports grassroots community groups across NYC, including many leading greening initiatives. Is regranting (or stipends) eligible?

As outlined in our RFA, proposed projects for the Community Greening Initiative may include match funding or co funding sources. We recommend clearly defining the project scope and providing a detailed budget breakdown, including how Community Greening Initiative funds would support or co fund the work. This should

also include any additional funding sources that will help advance specific community greening projects.

6. When you recommend 10–12 pages, is that length for the narrative section or the entire application?

This page guideline refers to the proposal narrative specifically.

7. We are partnering with a nonprofit applicant; can a for-profit Benefit Corporation serve as a subcontractor or partner? And what does the Supplier Diversity Utilization Plan require from the M/WBE partner?

Yes, a for-profit Benefit Corporation may serve as a subcontractor or partner if engaged to provide services relevant to project delivery. Please ensure details are included clearly in the proposal and budget narrative.

In terms of the Utilization Plan, we are looking for certified MWBE firms (for-profit) that will be engaged as a subcontractor/sub-supplier.

8. MWBE is a certification for for-profit businesses. As a nonprofit, do we sign the waiver?

Non-profits are required to demonstrate good faith effort to meet the stated MWBE/SDVOB goals. However, non-profit may request a waiver for work to be self-performed (e.g. personnel services (labor), utilities, and rent.) without GFE. All other expenses must demonstrate utilization of MWBE and SDVOB firms.

9. Regarding site control: Is it required? What if site control will be determined at a later date?

Site control is required. If site control is secured in the future, the application should clearly explain the plan and timeline for obtaining it.

10. Must proposed projects be located within a designated NYSEERDA Disadvantaged Community (DAC), or is being located within one of the 18 eligible counties sufficient?

Projects must meet both criteria: the project must be located within one of the eligible counties *and* within a New York State Disadvantaged Community (as defined by the [Climate Justice Working Group under the NYS Climate Act](#)). Any DAC within the counties listed below are eligible.

Eligible Counties:

Rensselaer
Albany
Schenectady
Onondaga
Suffolk
Nassau
Westchester
Ulster
Oneida
Queens
Kings
Richmond
New York
Bronx
St. Lawrence
Franklin
Erie
Niagara