

Community Funding Framework Midterm Review

Comparison of 2020 and 2026 Policy Statements – Document 3

In the 2026 update, Applicant Eligibility Criteria, Allowable and Ineligible Expenses, Assessment Criteria, and Reporting and Monitoring Requirements have been standardized and applied consistently across all funding streams, replacing the stream-specific variations that existed in 2020.

Area	2020 Policy Statements	2026 Policy Statements
Funding Streams	3 Three categories with six streams: - Sustainability Fund - Community Fund (Project Funding & Civic Events) - Emerging & Emergency Needs Fund (Capital, Emerging Need, Emergency)	Seven streams: - Sustainability Funding - Project Funding - Community Response Funding (<i>renamed from Emerging Community Need</i>) - Emergency Funding - Civic Events Funding - Community Safety & Well-Being Funding (new) - Older Adult Plan Funding (new)
Capital Funding	Stand-alone stream requiring 50% matching contribution	Removed as a stand-alone stream; minor capital expenses eligible under all streams
Community Response Funding	Named Emerging Community Need Funding ; focused on local priority neighbourhoods (rural areas were implicitly excluded)	Renamed Community Response Funding ; broader mandate for urgent, time-sensitive includes rural communities. The City reserves the right, subject to budget availability, to solicit applications for initiatives that help to achieve Council priorities and City programs' objectives.

Area	2020 Policy Statements	2026 Policy Statements
Governance & Authority	Delegated to Manager of Partner & Stakeholder Initiatives ; authority to transfer funds between streams	Delegated individually to the Director of Community Safety, Well-Being, Policy & Analytics and the Program Manager, Social Development & Funding Authority to reallocate funds and add funds to existing agreements without an open call
Eligibility	Varied requirements across streams Applicants could be Not-for-Profit or Registered Charity Sponsorship allowed in some streams Capital Funding required ownership or long-term lease	Clarified requirements for Not-for-Profit status, Boards, and “good standing” Charity designation removed - charities are incorporated Not-for-Profits (NFP) Applicants must be NFP for 2+ years or sponsored by an NFP operating 5+ years under all streams, with streams specific exceptions: - Civic Events Funding: Does not require incorporation - Sustainability Funding: NFP for 5+ years; sponsorship not allowed - Older Adult Plan Funding: City departments eligible
Ineligibility	Varied across streams	New : Business Improvement Associations
Allowable and ineligible expenses	Varied across streams	Expended ineligible expenses include: - Conflict-of-interest clause - Related-party transactions - Staff bonuses - Payments to other levels of government
Reporting Requirements	Unaudited financial statements permitted for funding under \$25,000	Threshold increased to \$50,000 Includes details on unaudited reporting requirements
Assessment Criteria	Varied across streams	Streamlined and added Equity for Priority Populations criteria

Area	2020 Policy Statements	2026 Policy Statements
Definitions Appendix	Were included in Appendix B	Removed Appendix, included definitions throughout the document for easier access