

North River Hills Neighborhood Organization (NRHNO)

2026 Community Building Initiative – Grant Proposal

The North River Hills Neighborhood Organization (NRHNO) is pleased to submit this grant proposal for its 2026 Community Building Initiative, requesting a \$10,000 Neighborhood Grant from the City of Burnsville.

Aligned with NRHNO's mission and the City's core values, this initiative will promote belonging, service, stewardship, safety, and connection. Our goal is to build a neighborhood network that fosters lasting friendships, strengthens civic pride, and endures for the future.

NRHNO is well positioned to carry out this initiative. The organization maintains an active website and Facebook page, with more than 500 residents connected through social media and an email distribution list. Additionally, the neighborhood benefits from a core team of more than a dozen active leaders who are committed to carrying out the 2026 Initiative.

In 2025, NRHNO successfully hosted two significant community events: a spring gathering with more than 100 residents and the neighborhood's first neighborhood-wide Night to Unite, which drew over 200 participants. Both events featured a visioning table to gather resident input, revealing a strong desire for more opportunities to connect, collaborate, and celebrate. With the closure of Sioux Trail Elementary School in 2020 — a longtime neighborhood hub — residents are now seeking new ways to build and sustain strong community bonds.

Key 2026 Community Building Initiatives & Benefits

Spring & Fall Park Clean-ups (Tennisioux & Black Dog Parks): Promote service, safety, and stewardship while beautifying the neighborhood. These clean-ups also strengthen fellowship and promote health and wellness.

Spring Carnival: Reviving a beloved community tradition with food, entertainment, and family-friendly activities. The carnival builds fellowship and inclusive community connections.

Second Annual Night to Unite: Expands on 2025's successful event with games, prizes, root beer floats, and activities. This event connects residents with police, fire, and city representatives, reinforcing safety, trust, and civic pride.

Fire Muster Parade: Offers visible representation of the neighborhood, showcasing community pride, unity, and promotion of the City's Neighborhood Organization program.

Use of Grant Funds

Grant funding will be dedicated to NRHNO's 2026 Community Building Initiative and used in full alignment with City guidelines. Funding will support 6–8 neighborhood events across

the year, covering supplies, food, equipment rentals, and other necessary costs.

Essential to an effective neighborhood organization is the ability to communicate well, both internally and across the neighborhood. Therefore, a portion of the budget will also support communication infrastructure — such as signage, digital tools, and outreach materials — ensuring NRHNO can reach all residents consistently and inclusively.

Local vendors will be prioritized whenever possible. Additional budget details are available upon request, and NRHNO will submit a final report to the City upon completion of the grant year.

NRHNO 2026 Community Building Initiative – Budget Appendix

Category / Event	Estimated Cost	Description
Spring Park Clean-up	\$500	Food, beverages, and supplies for volunteers; trash bags, gloves, tools.
Fall Park Clean-up	\$500	Food, beverages, and supplies for volunteers; trash bags, gloves, tools.
Spring Carnival	\$3,000	Family-friendly community event. Includes food, beverages, entertainment, activity supplies, inflatable rental, equipment rental (tables, chairs, tents), and sound system.
Night to Unite (2nd Annual)	\$3,000	Neighborhood-wide event. Includes food, beverages, activities, music/entertainment, games & prizes, equipment rental (tables, chairs, tents), and inflatable/bouncy house.
Fire Muster Parade	\$1,500	Parade participation. Includes float/trailer decorations, candy & giveaways, water for volunteers.
Communications & Infrastructure	\$1,000	Website hosting, email tools, signage, printed materials, and meeting room rental.
Total Estimated Grant Request	\$9,500	Leaves \$500 for contingency / flexibility.

Notes:

- Local vendors will be used wherever possible to keep dollars within Burnsville.

- In-kind contributions (not reflected above) include: volunteer labor, donated meeting space, resident-provided equipment/supplies, and community partnerships (e.g., police, fire, businesses).
- NRHNO commits to tracking attendance, volunteer hours, and resident feedback for all events to evaluate impact and report results to the City.