

PLP Innovation and Technology Opportunity Grant Program Application

Library Name: Pleasanton Public Library

Project Title: Sustainable Living

Select the category you are applying under:

Category A: Innovation and Technology Opportunity Grant

Category B: Grant Replication Program

If Category B is selected, enter the name of the grant you are replicating:

1. **Please provide a one paragraph project summary.**

The Pleasanton Library is excited to explore a Sustainable Living program—a comprehensive gardening collection and interactive program series running from November 2024 to June 2025. Sustainable Living aims to empower our community by promoting self-sufficiency, healthier eating habits, and the joy of growing one’s own food. To support this, the Library would expand its “Library of Things” to include a variety of gardening tools and collaborate with the Livermore Amador Garden Club to offer workshops on sustainable practices, fostering community interaction and shared responsibility. Workshops would be offered at the Library and through Zippy! – the Library’s new outreach vehicle, which is scheduled to premier in late 2024.

Programming would be designed to reach individuals from different communities in Pleasanton, including: families, seniors, individuals in our Spanish and Chinese language speaking communities, and those who live in multi-family homes. Sustainable living through gardening and food growth is an important topic that touches all parts of our community.

2. **Explain how this project fits with the library’s strategic directions.**

In July 2019, the Pleasanton Library and Recreation Department launched a Strategic Plan with a goal to expand collaboration with City departments, local agencies, businesses, and other entities to better address community needs and interests. A prime example of this strategy would be to expand our partnership with the Livermore Amador Garden Club, StopWaste, and the City’s Public Works Department. Together,

we would offer workshops on vegetable gardening, composting, and sustainable practices. This collaboration not only enriches community knowledge but also underscores our commitment to inclusiveness, customer service, innovation, and collaboration—core values central to the Library's mission.

3. **Please provide a detailed description of the proposed project, including the population served and the demographics of that population.**

Pleasanton, a suburban community in the Tri-Valley region of the Bay Area, has a population of 79,871, according to the latest census data from Census.gov. This diverse community spans various cultures, economic backgrounds, and age groups. The Sustainable Living program is designed for the entire community, especially for those who lack resources to purchase tools or books needed for gardening and sustainable living, and for those who cannot easily access the library. Despite Pleasanton's median income of approximately \$183,970, 5.7% of the population lives below the poverty line, and 16.4% (13,010 individuals) are seniors.

To better serve Pleasanton's underserved populations and those who lack the means to purchase gardening tools and materials, the Sustainable Living program is built around three key elements:

1. *Expanding the Library of Things Collection*

- Assess the current Library of Things collection and identify any needed gardening tools, such as trowels, rakes, seed trays, watering cans, and child-friendly tools.
- Purchase and catalog gardening tools.
- Translate promotional materials into the multiple languages spoken within the Pleasanton community and distribute them through channels that reach underserved populations, such as local community groups, and senior facilities.
- Launch the expanded collection with a "Check-Out to Grow" event, where community members can learn about the available tools and how to check them out.

2. *Collaboration with the Livermore Amador Garden Club, StopWaste, the Environmental Education Division of the Library and Recreation Department and the City's Public Works Department*

- Coordinate with colleagues in the Livermore Amador Garden Club, StopWaste, Environmental Education Division and Public Works Department to outline workshop topics such as starting a vegetable garden, composting techniques, and sustainable gardening.
- Set dates for workshops and secure experts to lead them.
- Promote workshop through the library's communication channels.

- Hold workshops directly in underserved neighborhoods and senior living facilities, making participation easier for those with limited mobility or resources.
- Hold workshops leading up to the 2025 Earth Day Event.
- Host a special Earth Day celebration featuring demonstrations from workshop leaders and a community plant and seed swap.

3. *Zippy! - Outreach Vehicle Services Integration*

- Coordinate with the outreach vehicle services team to include gardening tools and related library materials in their delivery routes.
- Make regular visits to underserved communities, local service agencies, and senior living facilities.
- Provide on-site demonstrations in conjunction with tool deliveries.
- Collect feedback from participants to improve future services and offerings.

These adjustments will help ensure that the Sustainable Living Program is truly accessible and beneficial to those who need it most, aligning with the community's diverse needs and economic realities.

4. **What are the goals and objectives of the project?**

- Expand the Library of Things to provide community members access to gardening tools and support home gardening initiatives.
- Expand partnerships within the City and the community to better reach more community members.
- Educate the community on sustainable gardening practices through expert-led workshops.
- Integrate the outreach vehicle to extend the Sustainable Living Program's reach to underserved communities and seniors.

5. **Please include your project timeline (include details of activities).**

- **November 2024:** Assess needs, secure funding, and begin tool and book acquisition.
- **December 2024:** Catalog tools and books and plan outreach vehicle services integration.
- **January 2025:** Launch tool collection; prepare for workshops with partner agencies, divisions and departments.

- **February - March 2025:** Hold two workshops; continue tool lending and outreach vehicle services.
- **April 2025:** Celebrate Earth Day with community events, including a workshop, paper shredding, compost demonstration, and plant and seed swap.
- **May - June 2025:** Review program success and plan for future expansions.

6. **Please indicate how you will evaluate the success of your project.**

- Program participant ranking of the program in meeting the educational goals of the program (KPI Metric - feedback/survey data).
- Monitor tool lending data and outreach vehicle service usage (KPI Metric – circulation statistics/program attendance data by location).
- Gather partner impact information (KPI Metric – feedback/survey data).

7. **Please detail your project budget. (Note: Indirect costs are not allowed).**

Budget Summary

Book collection on gardening			\$ 932.48
Gardening tools for circulation, mobile vehicle services, and programs			\$ 5,442.00
Workshop, program, and activity fees			\$ 2,500.00
Translation Services for Promotional materials			\$ 500.00
Total Cost			\$ 9,365.48

Detailed Budget

<i>Books on Gardening for Adults</i>	Unit Price	Copies	Total
The Vegetable Gardener's Bible by Edward C. Smith	\$ 8.56	2	\$ 17.12
Gaia's Garden: A Guide to Home-Scale Permaculture by Toby Hemenway	\$ 23.80	2	\$ 47.60
The Well-Tended Perennial Garden by Tracy DiSabato-Aust	\$ 22.00	4	\$ 44.00
All New Square Foot Gardening by Mel Bartholomew	\$ 14.00	2	\$ 28.00
Adult fiction on gardening for book club	\$ 25.00	10	\$ 250.00
Rodale's Basic Organic Gardening by Deborah L. Martin	\$ 29.00	2	\$ 58.00
Books on Gardening for Children			
Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots: Gardening Together with Children by Sharon Lovejoy	\$ 34.00	4	\$ 136.00
The Curious Garden by Peter Brown	\$ 13.00	6	\$ 78.00
Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt by Kate Messner	\$ 7.19	4	\$ 28.76

How Groundhog's Garden Grew by Lynne Cherry	\$ 35.00	4	\$ 140.00
Gardening Lab for Kids: 52 Fun Experiments to Learn, Grow, Harvest, Make, Play, and Enjoy Your Garden by Renata Fossen Brown	\$ 24.00	4	\$ 96.00
Total Cost			\$ 923.48

Gardening tools for circulation, mobile vehicle services, and programs

Gardening tools for adults	\$ 50.00	10	\$ 500.00
Kids Gardening Sets	\$ 25.00	8	\$ 200.00
Garden Tool Cleaning Kit (bucket, 50lb of Sand, motor oil)	\$ 60.00	2	\$ 120.00
Flower Gardening Building STEM Toys Kids Garden Building Blocks Kit	\$ 18.00	4	\$ 144.00
Salad Microgreens Starter Kit	\$ 16.00	100	\$ 1,600.00
Watex Countertop Garden Kit Spring Bouquet	\$ 50.00	20	\$ 1,000.00
Compost Bins	\$ 27.00	50	\$ 1,350.00
Buzzy Seeds Terracotta Mini Grow Pots/Herb, Plants Flower Starter Kits for Kids & Adults - 12-Pack	\$ 33.00	16	\$ 528.00
Total cost			\$ 5,442.00

Workshop fees	\$ 300.00	3	\$ 900.00
Teen program - Terrarium Craft	\$ 600.00	1	\$ 600.00
Earth Day Event Activities	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
			\$ 2,500.00

<i>Translation services for promotional materials</i>			\$ 500.00
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Grand total amount applying for: \$ 9,365.48

8. Please indicate how the project will be sustained after the grant term is over.

Through strategic planning, community engagement, and resource allocation, Pleasanton Public Library plans to continue the Sustainable Living Program beyond the grant period. Here's the plan:

- **Community Partnership and Collaboration**
Continue building strong partnerships with local organizations like the garden club, environmental groups, and schools. These partnerships can provide ongoing support, expertise, and resources even after the grant ends.

- **Integration into Library Core Service**
Incorporate the Sustainable Living Program into the library's core services by making it a regular part of its offerings. This will make the program a permanent fixture rather than a time-limited project.
- **Securing Ongoing Funding**
Engage the Friends of the Library group to support the program through fundraising events and membership drives, such as annual book sales and ongoing book sales. Work with the City's Recycling Coordinator to leverage Measure D funding.
- **Community Engagement**
Foster a sense of community ownership by involving participants in the planning process. Encourage community members to suggest ideas.
- **Sustainability Advocacy**
Position the library as a hub for sustainable living in the community, offering resources and support for individual and collective efforts. This cultural shift can sustain interest and participation in the program over the long term.
- **Evaluation and Impact Measurement**
Use metrics such as tool circulation rates, workshop attendance, and participant feedback to assess success and areas for improvement.
Conduct an annual review to adjust the program's focus, resources, and goals based on community needs and feedback. This helps keep the program relevant and aligned with the library's mission "Discover, Connect, Share!"