

Making Your Block Challenge Grant Application More Competitive

Block Challenge grants are competitive. It is expected that the number of applicants will exceed the available funds each year. Therefore, priority for funding is made on the criterion below.

1. Location in a Target Zone

Clusters of properties that are located inside, or within a block of, the target areas will be more likely to be funded than clusters outside the target areas. Please See Target Area FAQ .

2. Close Proximity of Clustered Properties

Properties that are physically close together will create more of an impact than properties that are scattered. Applications where the property improvements are occurring in a concentrated area are more likely to be funded than applications where houses are separated by great distances.

3. What Constitutes a Block

A Block can be made up of both sides of one street. Or a Block can be the made up of the contiguous area within 4 streets.

4. High Numbers of Participating Properties

Although at least 50% of households on the same block are required to participate, that is just the minimum. Competitive applications have 60 to 75% of homes participating on the same block. It is important that these houses are on the same street. If many more houses are recruited, but they are scattered around other blocks, streets, this will weaken the application. Houses on other streets must be encouraged to form their own group application.

5. Teamwork on Projects

All things being equal, groups that demonstrate specifically how they will work together and assist each other in their block improvements are more competitive.

6. A Plan to Sustain the Momentum

This is a significant factor in the competitiveness of an application. Block Challenge grants are designed to do more than improve homes. The Fulton Block Builders seeks to partner with residents to revitalize whole neighborhoods over several years. This is accomplished both through physical improvements and -- just as importantly -- stronger connections among neighbors. A strong grant application will indicate future plans for how the neighbors will work together to improve their block - not only physically, but socially as well. Having your group meet with a Resident Leader to discuss your neighborhood, and get ideas on how sustained revitalization can be sustained, will likely strengthen the application. Please contact FBB to set up an appointment.

7. Fulton Block Builders will not fund

This list is not exhaustive...

- * The loss of architectural features
- * Tree removal (If the tree is dead or diseased this will be considered)
- * Projects that remove greenspace
- * New vinyl siding (if siding home FBB will support washing & repair)

without prior approval.

8. Use of "Find Your Color"

Homeowners that wish to paint their home will receive bonus points and additional financial incentives for using the historical guide to paint combinations found in the Fulton Block Builder "Find Your Color" guide found on the FBB website.