

Food, Agriculture and Resilient Ecosystems (FARE)

Grant Program Guidelines

Updated: June 3, 2025

About the Grant Program

Marin voters created this local grant program as part of the 2022 Parks Measure A (Ordinance 3760) ballot measure. Marin County Parks (Parks) partnered with a range of professionals, community leaders and organizations across the county to develop these program guidelines.

Under Ordinance 3760 this competitive grant program supports work on sustainable food systems, climate beneficial management, and improving natural resource values on Marin's working lands, including: carbon capture farming practices, environmental restoration, regenerative agriculture, improving ecosystem services for water quality and soil health, local food supply sustainability and community gardens, wildlife corridor and habitat improvements, providing for public access, increasing access to low-cost farmland and farming for low-income and underserved communities.

See Page 5 for a list of ingredients used to evaluate the strength of applications.

Available Funding

An estimated \$1.4 million will be awarded for competitive grants during this second application cycle: \$300,000 toward school and community garden grants, and \$1.1 million to the other three grant categories.

Eligible applicants can request grant awards of between \$5,000 and \$20,000 for individual school and community gardens, and \$15,000 to \$200,000 for all other categories.

Four additional resources will be provided by the FARE Program over the next two years. Applying for these resources will be a separate process. See "Additional Community Resources Funded by FARE" below for more information.

Grant Types

Grant funds can be used for a range of project phases including next steps for planning and early action stages of a project; launch of a new project or program that is ready to begin; continuation of a program that is already operational; or implementation of physical projects on working lands or in communities.

Four grant types are available, which allow for project funds to be used for different purposes and over different lengths of time.

1. Small Community and School Garden Grants

\$5,000 to \$20,000 for projects of up to two years. A maximum of \$300,000 will be made available for this category of grant.

Small community and school garden grants can be used for operation, maintenance, or improvement of *a single or group of small school or community gardens*. For work that involves a larger system of gardens or multiple facilities promoting better local food access, consider applying through one of the other grant categories.

See Attachment B for examples of projects community members have suggested under this category.

2. Early Action Grants: Planning, Capacity Building and Preparing New Programs and Projects

\$15,000 to \$200,000 for projects of up to two years.

Early action grants support the work needed to prepare a project, program, or acquisition for next steps.

This could include feasibility analysis, technical assistance, capacity building, partnership development, community outreach to identify priorities, permitting, design, creation of a project proposal, and more.

See Attachment C for examples of projects community members have suggested under this category.

3. Program Grants: New and Existing Programs

\$15,000 to \$200,000, for projects of up to three years.

Program grants may implement a new program or sustain an existing program within the scope of this grant program. This could include continued work on existing farm-to-school projects or similar food pipelines, connecting low-income residents to farming opportunities, and implementation of carbon farming practices. These grants may include the purchase of equipment or other durable goods.

See Attachment D for examples of projects community members have suggested under this category.

4. Physical Implementation Grants

\$15,000 to \$200,000, for projects of up to five years.

Implementation grants are awarded to projects that have all plans, designs, and permits in place and are ready to build.

See Attachment E for examples of projects community members have suggested under this category.

Additional Community Resources Funded by FARE

In addition to the competitive grants described above, the following additional resources will be provided by the FARE Program over the next two years. Stay tuned for updates on how to access these additional resources.

1. Permitting Technical Assistance

Parks will set aside \$30,000 to provide technical assistance to support permitting consultations for FARE grantees. This includes \$13,000 set aside for food vendor environmental health permits.

2. Garden Strike Crews

Parks will issue a \$40,000 request for proposals seeking a contractor to deliver two years of rotating service to community and school gardens. These garden strike crews will be available to help with one-time or large seasonal projects and maintenance, such as pathway cleanup or turnover of garden beds. All community and school gardens in Marin County are eligible to request support from the garden strike crews.

3. Preparing and Selling Food Locally

Parks will set aside \$30,000 to explore ways to eliminate barriers to food preparation and storage for low-income food entrepreneurs. Examples could include better access to existing commercial kitchens, support to utilize home kitchens for microenterprise, and more.

4. Garden Resource Hubs

Parks will convene partners to develop and implement a business plan guiding regional hubs to share compost, seedlings, and other resources across gardens to reduce waste, save money, and increase availability.

Application, Work Plan, and Budget

To apply, attend at least one FARE grant program information session or meet with program staff during office hours, and complete an application through Submittable.

A complete application must be submitted by the application deadline. County staff may contact applicants if additional information is required before or after the application deadline.

A work plan included with the application should clearly describe the types and timing of activities proposed for funding. The budget included with the application should clearly demonstrate how the activities will be funded, including:

- Staff time/labor expenses
- Equipment
- Materials/Supplies
- Other categories as needed

Up to 20% of funds can be applied toward administrative expenses that directly support the grant scope of work.

During the review process, staff may request revisions to project activities and/or funding amounts. The County reserves the right to offer a grant award amount less than the amount requested.

Timeline for Application and Award

Schedule	Activity
May – September 2025	Grant Program Information Sessions
July 17, 2025	Grant Application Period Announced
September 12, 2025	Application Due*
October 10, 2025	Requests for Additional Information sent to Applicants
November 7, 2025	Additional information due, if required**
September – November 2025	Staff visit grant proposal sites as needed
September 13, 2025 – January 14, 2026	Applications review process
January 15, 2026	Parks and Open Space Commission recommends projects
January – February 2026	Grant Agreements developed for recommended projects
March 2026	Board of Supervisors finalizes selection and Grant Agreements***
March 2026 or later****	Grant-funded project work can begin after finalization of Grant Agreements

* Applications submitted before the deadline may receive earlier feedback on what additional information will be required. Early submission will allow applicants more time to prepare this information. Staff-led information sessions and office hours will offer opportunities to support getting an early start on the initial application. Early application submission does not affect chances of receiving funding.

** Program staff will contact applicants to request additional information that may be required and may extend the timeline for when specific types of information are due depending on the complexity of the project.

*** This is the earliest the Board may approve proposals to receive grant awards. Individual grant agreements may be brought to the Board for approval at a later date pending finalization of the details of the scope and budget, receipt of any missing information, or resolution of any outstanding issues.

**** Pending approval of grant agreement by the Marin County Board of Supervisors and providing any additional documentation the grant is contingent upon.

Selection Criteria

Factors that will be considered in evaluating project proposals include:

1. Application is complete, including any landowner authorizations needed, and the budget only includes the core unmet funding needs required to implement a focused scope of work.
2. The applicant is an eligible grantee OR has a fiscal sponsor.
3. The scope of work is aligned with the types of work voters approved for this program in Measure A ([Ordinance 3760](#)).
4. Your proposal focuses on priorities that have been identified by regionally relevant community-based networks and planning processes. Examples include the [Health Eating Active Living \(HEAL\) Collaborative's Community Action Team priorities](#), topics identified by the community through the [Marin County Participatory Budgeting process](#), [Marin Climate Action Network](#), [Marin Food Policy Council](#), [Climate Action Plan 2030](#) coalition priorities, [Marin County 2022 Race Equity Action Plan](#), and Carbon Farming Plans.
5. The applicant and any partners are ready to implement the scope of work, including demonstrated readiness to manage, complete, and report on the project.
6. The scope of work directs resources to and includes leadership by Priority Communities. Also see the next section below.
7. The applicant has worked to include partners and collaborate in ways it makes sense for the type of project or program.
8. The application describes how a FARE grant would fill a gap that other funding does not serve: other sources of funding have been researched, and the project is not well-suited to other sources of funding OR these funds will be used as matching funds to access other funding sources.
9. The funding is spread across Marin communities, areas of need, and program and project areas described in Measure A.
10. Matching funds and/or in-kind donations are required, but there is no minimum.
11. For previous or current FARE grantees: demonstration that this project and funding will complement the scope and timing of that previous grant.

Focus on Priority Communities and Equity

For this program, the term “Priority Communities” refers to any Marin County human population that experiences inequity related to this Program’s funding areas (for example food security and human or environmental health) compared to the county.

Applicants can define for themselves how the project proposal supports Priority Communities. Applicants may use quantitative or qualitative data, community feedback from or centered in a Priority Community, and direct experience to describe how a Program proposal advances [Marin’s equity goals](#).

This may include demonstration of how a Priority Community was involved in leading or co-leading the project design and directly benefits from project activities. This may also include specific workforce development opportunities, equitable compensation strategies, and more.

Attachment A includes additional information about Priority Communities and this program.

Selection Process

Staff will lead an application review process with input from technical reviewers with subject matter expertise and a volunteer group of reviewers with a range of expertise and experience to review and advise on staff recommendations prior to the Parks and Open Space Commission meeting.

Staff will require all participants in the review process to disclose any conflicts of interest.

Staff will form grant award recommendations for the Parks and Open Space Commission to consider. The Marin County Board of Supervisors will ultimately decide which proposals are selected for grant funding and will authorize each grant agreement.

Applicants whose proposals are not selected can request feedback and re-apply in a future year.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be based in Marin County or have at least one year of history performing work related to their scope in Marin County.
- Applicant must be either a:
 - o City
 - o County
 - o Federally recognized non-profit organization
 - o Special district or Joint Powers Authority (JPA) formed pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 6500) of Division 7 of the Government code
 - o School District
 - o Federally recognized California Native American tribe or a non-federally recognized California Native American tribe that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage CommissionOR
 - o Work under a fiscal sponsor that is one of these types of organizations. (The fiscal sponsor does not need to be based in Marin County).

If you do not match these eligibility criteria and do not have a fiscal sponsor, please contact program staff for support.

- All applicants must demonstrate they have the capacity to manage their project's scope of work, and the grant funds. Applicants are encouraged to partner with other organizations leading similar work.
- Organizations that are selected for a grant will be required to register in the County of Marin vendor system. The "Registering/Creating a New Vendor" section in the [Vendor Portal User Guide](#) describes this process. (Note: The Vendor Access portal launched on March 12, 2025. Personal user log-in accounts from the older Vendor Self-Service (VSS) portal did not transfer over. Please follow instructions for New Users.)

Partnerships

The program encourages organizations to work in partnership with others, and this will be considered in the application selection process. Applicants are encouraged to include a

memorandum of understanding with partners to demonstrate commitment to collaborate throughout the project. Partners may also be listed as subcontractors in cases where they are performing certain paid tasks in the scope of work.

Matching Contribution Requirements

Applicants must provide a matching contribution to the project. This can be funding or in-kind resources such as volunteer hours. There is no minimum proportion of matching funding or in-kind resources required.

Grant applicants proposing a large capital project are encouraged to use this Program as matching funds to access larger funding sources such as State or Federal funds.

Administrative Costs

Administrative expense requests will be negotiated through the grant agreement process. The maximum possible allowance for direct administrative costs is 20% of the grant award.

Direct administrative costs are defined as any administrative costs related to implementation of the grant scope or administrative requirements of this Program.

Indirect costs are not eligible.

Eligible/Ineligible Expenses

See Attachment F for more details on eligible and ineligible expenses. Exceptions to these lists may be considered but must be discussed and pre-approved by program staff in writing.

All eligible costs must be reasonable. This means that the cost, in its nature and amount, must not exceed that which would be incurred by a prudent person under the circumstances prevailing at the time the decision was made to incur the cost.

Implementation requirements: Project Start Date, End Date, Extensions and Budget Adjustments

Any changes to the scope of project activities must be approved by program staff in advance and in writing. Changes to budget categories of over 10% must be approved by program staff in advance and in writing.

No-cost time extensions to the grant agreement of up to one year may be granted by program staff if needed to complete a project scope and budget.

In cases where a funding advance is made, any grant award funds that have not been used by the end of the grant agreement must be returned to the County.

Funding retention: 10% of the total funding award will be withheld until program staff has approved the final report in writing and confirmed that project deliverables have been fulfilled.

Subcontractors

Grantees may subcontract some activities of the project. The grantee is responsible for ensuring that all financial and other reporting requirements for the project meet the grant agreement requirements, including activities that subcontractors perform. In the event a grantee retains a contractor to accomplish any part of the project, the grantee is required to first enter into an agreement with each contractor requiring it and any subcontractors meet the audit, accounting, and records retention terms set forth in the grant agreement. Applicants must indicate where they plan to use consultants and contractors in the application and budget. Applicants are advised to identify subcontractors during the application process including verifying costs, availability, and qualifications.

Contracting, Procurement, and Other Legal Requirements Related to Scope Delivery

It is the Grantee's responsibility to know their requirements for contracting, procurement, permitting, prevailing wage, and other laws governing the delivery of their scope of work, regardless as to whether the Grantee or its subcontractor is performing such functions. It is the Grantee's responsibility to ensure its procurement requirements and practices are consistent with all applicable laws.

Changes to the Grant Agreement Including Budget, Activities, and Timeframe

Following Board approval, program staff are authorized to approve adjustments in the scope and budget line items responding to changes in project needs and costs.

The grantee must contact program staff and receive written approval to make changes to the grant agreement including to:

- Adjust scope details
- Adjust the budget to re-allocate funds between work plan activities or expense categories, resulting in a change of more than 10% of the expense category
- Receive a no-cost extension to the grant agreement end date up to one year.

The grant agreement will specify the project end date. Grantees are expected to complete project activities and use all grant award funds by the project end date. In cases where any funding is provided in advance, any unused funds after the project end date will be returned to the County.

Fund Disbursement

Reimbursement

Unless otherwise specified, eligible expenses will be reimbursed by submitting expenditure reports no more frequently than every two months, and no less frequently than every six months. Program staff may make exceptions to invoice frequency pending individual grantee circumstances.

The program cannot reimburse the project for work performed before the start date of the grant agreement, or for work performed after the expiration date on the grant agreement.

Advance Payments

Requests to provide funding up front can be considered on a case-by-case basis. Advance payments cannot reduce the project balance below 10% of the award amount. Grantees must request to complete a form outlining the advance request, must agree to hold advanced funds in a separate interest-bearing account or fund area separate from other funds, and must be able to demonstrate why an advance is essential for the grantee to complete the scope of work for economic or other reasons.

Reporting Requirements

Financial and additional reporting requirements may vary depending on the complexity of the project and will be specified in the grant agreement.

Applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposal with program staff before applying to discuss reporting requirements specific to their project. This will allow applicants to include time for reporting into the proposed budget.

Grantees are required to participate in evaluation of the grant program. This may include survey completion, interviews and/or meetings.

Financial reporting

Grantees must maintain accounting records related to any Program grant funding they receive for five years beginning the day after the grant is closed. Measure A Program funding must be accounted for separately from all other funding sources. Grantees will be audited for compliance with Measure A and grant program requirements from time to time by the Marin County Department of Finance.

Final invoices are due no later than 30 calendar days following the expiration date of the Grant Agreement term or after the project is complete, whichever comes first. Invoices submitted before the completion of annual or final reports will not be paid until the reports have been received, reviewed, and accepted by program staff.

Additional reporting

Some combination of narrative reports, field visits, photos, interviews, joint calls with other grantees, and/or presentations will be required. Program staff may request site visits or discussions with grantees at any time throughout the grant period.

Grantees may be required to provide evidence that engineering, permitting, or other early phases of a scope have been completed prior to starting additional phases of their scope.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Permitting Requirements

Any project must comply with all relevant federal, state, and local laws and permitting requirements including the California Environmental Quality Act. For projects that will use grant funds to perform activities that require a permit, the grantee must include the relevant permits and authorizations with the invoices for these expenses. The grantee is responsible for identifying what permits are necessary and complying with all applicable laws.

Applicants must demonstrate that they have permission to work on the land where the project will take place.

Indemnification and Insurance

Grant awardees will be required to indemnify, hold harmless, and release the County, its elected and appointed officials, officers, agents, and employees, from and against any and all actions, claims, damages, liabilities, or expenses that may be asserted by any third party arising out of or in connection with the grantee's performance under, or the making of, the grant agreement. Grantees must secure all necessary insurance to complete project activities.

Grant Agreements

Additional requirements may apply depending on the project. Each grant award will include a grant agreement that specifies requirements related to the use of this funding source.

Program Oversight

The [Marin Parks and Open Space Commission](#) advises on program policies and strategy and recommends projects to the Board of Supervisors for selection.

The [Measure A Oversight Committee](#) provides financial oversight for the program, including reviewing annual expenditures to ensure they conform with the Measure A Expenditure Plan and overseeing an annual audit.

The [County of Marin Department of Finance](#) provides internal control oversight for the program, including adherence to grant compliance requirements.

The [Board of Supervisors](#) approves the program guidelines and selects proposals for grant awards, including finalization of grant agreements.

Parks staff oversees implementation of the grant program including the application, selection and reporting processes.

Support for Applicants and Grant Awardees

Applicants can contact program staff at any time with questions and requests for support. Program staff will offer several information sessions for applicants to learn more about the program, discuss project or program ideas, ask questions about the application process, seek help to find a fiscal sponsor, and identify assistance needed to be successful.

Organizations that receive grant funding can contact program staff for questions and support throughout the grant project activities and reporting process.

Program Contact

FAREgrant@marincounty.gov

ATTACHMENT A: DATA SOURCES TO DEMONSTRATE PROJECT SUPPORTS PRIORITY COMMUNITIES

The grant selection process will prioritize projects that are co-designed by and benefit Priority Communities in Marin County.

For this program, “Priority Communities” refers to any Marin County human population that experiences inequity related to this Program’s funding areas (for example food security and ecological health) compared to the county as a whole.

Defining Priority Communities

Applicants can define for themselves how the project proposal supports Priority Communities. Applicants may use quantitative or qualitative data, community feedback from or centered in communities of color, and direct experience to describe how a Program proposal addresses racial disparities and other inequities.

Examples of data sources that applicants may use to describe how their project supports Priority Communities include:

- [Maps provided by this Program](#) generally illustrating racial and other demographic data in Marin
- [Bay Area Equity Atlas](#)
- [California Department of Education Data Dashboard](#)
- [Center for Disease Control Wonder Public Health Dashboard](#)
- [Healthy Marin County Data Dashboard](#) (examples: access to healthy food, access to grocery store, life expectancy, percent of children eligible for free/reduced school lunch)
- [Marin County Race Equity Action Plan](#)
- [Open Marin County Data Portal](#)
- [Healthy Eating Active Living Implementation Priorities](#)
- [Healthy Places Index](#)
- [Human Development Index](#)
- Locally collected data or public input, included qualitative information based on interviews, stories and discussions

Supporting Priority Communities

Examples of how a project can serve a priority community include:

- Developed and implemented by or in close partnership with an organization based in a community of color and/or additional Priority Communities. Examples of how organizations can involve communities in project design is available in this description of [Spectrum of Community Engagement](#).
- Centers Traditional Knowledge and direct involvement in restoration or other project design.
- Directly improves the lives of low-income residents, people of color, or other marginalized communities and is designed in close partnership with these populations.

- Grant funding flows to the lowest income residents through living wages, workforce development opportunities, and stipends that support the time and expertise of advisors from priority populations
- Program activities improve safety and environmental health for vulnerable populations

ATTACHMENT B: EXAMPLES OF SMALL COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL GARDEN GRANT PROJECTS

Small Community and School Garden Grants

Duration: Up to Two Years

Small Community and School Garden grants can support operation, maintenance, or improvement of a single school or community garden. This could include garden materials, supplies, small construction, staffing, and similar expenses.

These are just a few examples that the community members have suggested for this project type. Contact program staff with questions about proposed projects.

- Construction of a wash/pack station
- Purchase of compost or tools
- Construction of ADA raised garden beds
- Purchase of fruit trees for planting in a community garden
- School educational program
- School farm management
- Staff costs to run a school or a community garden
- Signs and education materials at a community garden
- Educators at gardens and schools that can teach about a range of related topics
- Stable funding to operate school and community gardens
- Community consultation to plan the expansion of an existing school garden or develop a new community garden

ATTACHMENT C: EXAMPLES OF EARLY ACTION, PLANNING AND CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT PROJECTS

Early Action, Planning and Capacity Building Grants

Duration: Up to Two Years

Early Action, planning and capacity building grants can support progress on anything needed to get a project, program, or acquisition ready for implementation. This could include technical assistance, capacity building, partnership development, planning, grant writing, permitting, and design.

These are just a few examples that the community members have suggested for this project type. Contact program staff with questions about proposed projects.

- Carbon farm planning
- Study school grounds available for farming
- Identify public, private and faith-based properties available for urban agriculture
- Shared crop planning to support a farm to school food pipeline
- Map large volume food hubs and what they distribute
- Planning and design for commercial kitchen space to support food entrepreneurs
- Convene partners to develop a shared approach to a coordinated gleaning and community kitchen programs
- Community consultations to identify priorities for food system and food sovereignty activities
- Consultants to complete CEQA or other permitting requirements for capital projects
- Consultants to support feasibility analysis or project design of a community program or capital project
- Strategy development and action planning for eradicating food insecurity
- Creating a strategy of highest and best use for biomass utilization and carbon cycling in the County

ATTACHMENT D – EXAMPLES OF PROGRAM GRANT PROJECTS

Program Grants

Duration: Up to Three Years

Program grants may implement a new program or sustain an existing program within the scope of this grant program. These grants may include the purchase of equipment or other durable goods.

These are just a few examples that the community members have suggested for this project type. Contact program staff with questions about proposed projects.

- Program to create a local compost hub that moves compost from farms to community gardens
- Gleaning from commercial ag producers
- Grants to new farmers for supplies and equipment to start farming, as well as business training
- Place-based projects showing how to connect youth and families to agriculture opportunities
- Places/programs in parks where people can show up and get their hands in the dirt
- Subsidized supplies and labor for several landowners willing to plant gardens on their property
- Land trust model ready to receive lands when farmers retire
- Botanical Conservatory/Food Forest in West Marin
- Materials and education to promote tiny home gardens to promote access to healthy foods
- Create/expand farmers market space, grocery store and grocery cooperative, paying youth health educators, cooking demonstrations at local food pantries in Marin City
- Commercial kitchen space and storage for home cooks to sell food.
- Business education for home cooks to become food entrepreneurs.
- Multi-year programmatic connection between school food programs and local farms
- Community potlucks and food demonstrations
- Wireless devices for SNAP and WIC sales
- Training for kitchen staff in senior housing facilities
- Access to subsidized organic produce, food subsidies
- Delivery programs to get produce to markets and tables
- Coordinators to support existing food access programs to ensure good distribution
- Program to prescribe produce to meet individual needs
- School garden programs that grow food for school meals across several school gardens
- Support for regional buying cooperatives
- Support of Marin County's 2030 CAP plan and GhG reduction by implementing land management practices on agricultural lands that will increase carbon sequestration and soil health long-term.

ATTACHMENT E: EXAMPLES OF IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROJECTS

Implementation Grants

Duration: Up to Five Years

Implementation grants are awarded to projects that have all plans, designs, and permits in place and are ready to build.

These are just a few examples that the community members have suggested for this project type. Contact program staff with questions about proposed projects.

- Water catchment system
- Community kitchen construction
- Clean up of community garden sites where soil contamination exists
- Water supply protection project
- Organic compost facility
- Native plant nursery, native plant restoration and education programs
- Soil health improvement projects
- Planting hedgerows
- Riparian restoration and protection projects
- Implement carbon farm plans
- Prepare open spaces, faith-based properties, and other sites available for agricultural uses and farming
- Establishment of incubator farm for low-income populations
- Water infrastructure for new farming projects
- Food outlets and pantries
- Gardens in low-income apartment buildings for residents
- Food processing facilities
- Plant edible landscaping in public spaces

ATTACHMENT F: ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Eligible Costs - Examples

- Fully-burdened staff time for activities directly related to the project
- Materials and durable goods related to the implementation of a program
- Educational materials supporting a program including signs, printed information, paid social media and other advertising, video production, and similar
- Design, engineering and permitting for commercial kitchens and similar
- Studies and research needed to evaluate a new program idea
- Professional facilitation to help multiple stakeholders identify shared solutions or approaches to advance a priority
- Limited food and beverages
- Permitting and CEQA consultation
- Project mapping
- Staff or contractor time to prepare a grant application for a Priority Community if a strong case is made for this need
- Technical and legal consulting
- Translation and interpretation services
- Technical or virtual meeting software, subscriptions, or applications other than basic word processing programs
- Environmental site assessments
- Property boundary surveys
- Reporting required by this grant program
- Baseline conditions report
- Building Envelope survey(s)
- Tribal consultation(s)
- Management or Business Planning
- Training to improve skills, efficiency, or expertise
- Carbon Farm Planning
- Fiscal sponsor fees

Up to 20% of funds can be applied toward administrative expenses that directly support the grant scope of work.

Ineligible costs - Examples

The following activities and costs will not be covered under this grant program:

- Conducting lobbying, carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation or political decision making
- Influencing the outcome of any specific election through any means
- Purposes other than those that are listed in [Ordinance 3760](#)
- Fundraising and investment management costs
- Budget shortfalls or endowment funds
- Administrative costs not related to the implementation of the program or event
- Scholarships, fellowships, or grants to individuals
- Travel or activities outside of Marin County unless pre-approved in writing
- Goods or services for personal use
- Items outside of the scope approved by the Board of Supervisors where changes were not agreed to in advance
- Ceremonial or celebration expenses (including food and beverages)
- Alcoholic beverages
- Bonus payments of any kind
- Severance pay
- Interest expenses
- Fines, penalties, damages, and other settlements
- Real estate brokerage fees and/or expenses
- Insurance and indemnification
- Legal defense funds
- Costs incurred outside the grant term
- Losses on other awards or contracts
- Contributions and donations
- Depreciation
- Gains and losses on disposition of assets
- Idle facilities and idle capacity
- Entertainment costs
- Indirect or overhead costs
- Expenses for organizational publicity
- Services, materials, or equipment obtained under any other funding source
- Bad debts, including losses arising from uncollectible accounts and other claims
- Bonding costs

Any expenses not included in either the Eligible Costs or Funding Restrictions lists will be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be pre-approved in writing by grant program staff.

ATTACHMENT G: MEASURE A LANGUAGE THAT ESTABLISHES THIS GRANT PROGRAM

Grant program language from [Measure A, County Ordinance 3760](#), Exhibit A, Page 3

Thirty percent (30%) of the Sustainable Agriculture Program's annual amount shall provide competitive matching grants to qualified organizations to support work on sustainable food systems, climate beneficial management, and improving natural resource values on Marin's working lands, including: carbon capture farming practices, environmental restoration, regenerative agriculture, improving ecosystem services for water quality and soil health, local food supply sustainability and community gardens, wildlife corridor and habitat improvements, providing for public access, increasing access to low-cost farmland and farming for low-income and underserved communities.