

City of Tallahassee

Frenchtown Community Engagement Fund

Overview

The Frenchtown Community Engagement Fund (CEF) is established to fund the implementation of the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan by providing grants to Frenchtown residents, organizations, businesses and entities to implement action items from the plan and/or proposals that will achieve the outcomes cited in the plan. The Fund is capitalized by \$300,000 provided by the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) when it adopted and funded the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan on July 1, 2021.

Through the Community Engagement Fund, the Frenchtown Community Action Team (CAT) will provide mini grants to implement action items, initiatives, and projects not otherwise funded by a specific budgetary allocated from the Neighborhood First Plan approval process. At the heart of the CEF is the engagement of Frenchtown residents and stakeholders in the implementation of their Neighborhood First Plan. Proposals approved for funding, from their inception, development and implementation must engage Frenchtown residents and stakeholders.

What is the Community Engagement Fund?

CEF is a grant funding program specifically established and capitalized for the implementation of the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan. The Fund provides grants to implement action items - initiatives/programs/projects – from the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan that are not otherwise funded directly by the CRA. Approximately, \$300,000 was provided by the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency to capitalize the Fund. The Fund is administered by the Frenchtown Community Action Team with staff support and oversight from City of Tallahassee Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department and the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency.

Why is the Community Engagement Fund important?

The CEF provides funding that Frenchtown residents, stakeholders and neighborhood-based organizations can access/leverage to aide their participation in the implementation of the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan. The Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan was developed by a resident-led process overseen by the Frenchtown Community Action Team and facilitated by the City's Neighborhood Affairs Division. It is important that residents and stakeholders be actively engaged in the implementation of the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan. The CEF provides a positive way to engage residents and stakeholders in the process by providing funding for them to undertake and implement action items from the plan. In addition, all funded projects will directly impact/provide services to Frenchtown residents and their community. Frenchtown is Tallahassee-Leon County oldest African American neighborhood.

What is eligible to be funded with CEF funds?

All grant money spent must be directly associated with and Action Item from the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan. Typically, this grant program will not cover program take-away items such as computers, nor executive administration costs. Purchases such as items needed to conduct a program or a physical project are allowed, as well as costs associated with hiring project staff (social worker, outreach specialist, etc.) to perform the services are allowed.

All programming and projects will be evaluated to ensure they follow all Community Redevelopment Agency guidelines and parameters for funding.

Who is eligible to apply for Community Engagement Funding?

Frenchtown residents¹, organizations, businesses and entities² are eligible to apply for a grant from the Community Engagement Fund. Organizations, businesses, and entities located outside of the Frenchtown neighborhood, in collaboration and/or partnership with a Frenchtown resident or organization/entity, may apply for grant. Non-Frenchtown residents are not eligible to apply for a grant from the CEF. All services and programming funded by the CEF must be delivered within the boundaries of the Frenchtown neighborhood and should be designed and delivered primarily to serve Frenchtown residents and their interests.

What are the Frenchtown neighborhood boundaries?

Frenchtown is bordered by Alabama Street and W 7th Avenue on the north, N. Adams Street and N. Duval Street on the East, W Tennessee Street on the south, and N. Woodward Avenue on the West. See map on page 7 of the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan for the official boundary outline.

What are the Funding Categories?

To direct and focus funding decisions and to ensure that prioritized services, projects, and initiatives are funded, the Community Engagement Fund has established six (6) funding categories. Funded projects must meet the intent of one or more of these funding categories. Applicants must identify the primary funding category for their grant proposal, and if applicable, up to two secondary funding categories. Applicants are encouraged to design their grant proposals to further the intents of several funding categories. The funding categories are: Beautification/Placemaking & Neighborhood Image, Community Organizing, Health/Wellness, Social Services, Neighborhood Safety & Crime Prevention, and Housing, Economic Development & Community Reinvestment. The table below summarizes the definition of the categories. A full definition of each category can be found in the Funding Categories Attachment. Table 1 below explains each category's intent and examples.

Funding Category	Intent	Examples
Beautification, Placemaking & Neighborhood Image	To create a sense of place through positive management, programming, and use of public space, to protect and enhance the historical attributes of the community, and to improve the physical environment of Frenchtown	Expanding on signature Frenchtown architectural characteristics, neighborhood signage with the fleur-de-lis icon, community clean ups, landscaping of public areas and publicly owned rights of way, community gardens, and murals.
Community Organizing	Promotion efforts that lead to the establishment of a broad-based neighborhood organization that provides support for residents, facilitates neighborhood advocacy and foster a greater sense of community in Frenchtown	Meetings, group facilitation and other organizing events result in the establishment of a broad-based neighborhood organization, development/hosting of youth sub-groups/listening sessions, and community leadership training and development.
Health/Wellness	To support programs, initiatives and projects that improve resident's health/wellness, providing resources and services that positively benefit resident's physical and mental health across generations.	A neighborhood ambassador program that helps residents receive/access the healthcare benefits that are available to them; Partnerships with medical centers to provide supplementary physical and mental health services, renovation of vacant lot/vacant building to create recreation/wellness center, and health/wellness empowerment programs
Social Services	Provides services that empower the overall welfare of residents. Focuses may include but are not limited to medical, social work, legal, financial, elder care and youth services.	Legal services providing resources on heirs' properties, medical providers servicing Frenchtown, life skills coaching, development for youth and families, development of a virtual and hard-copy directory of community, homelessness advocacy and supports, and a resource guide of local health care providers and services.
Neighborhood Safety & Crime Prevention	To promote the safety of Frenchtown residents and to deter crime in the community using a multidisciplinary approach to address the reduction of crime through urban and environmental design, and the built environment.	Projects/programs that incorporate the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) tactics such as eliminating vacant structures and lots, maintaining exterior properties to prevent crime are encouraged. Partnerships with law enforcement agencies, campaign to reduce crime, and community block groups
Housing, Economic Development & Community Reinvestment	To educate, incentivize and empower residents to cultivate thoughts and action toward fostering income equality and wealth accumulation.	Host events & workshops that promote the benefits of homeownership and value of remaining in the community ("You don't have to move out of your community to live in a better one") and invest in Frenchtown and buy in Frenchtown.

Table 2 lists each funding allocation per funding category.

Category	Funding Allocation	Funding Amount
Beautification, Placemaking & Neighborhood Image	15%	\$ 45,000.00
Community Organizing	10%	\$ 30,000.00
Health/Wellness	15%	\$ 45,000.00
Social Services	15%	\$ 45,000.00
Neighborhood Safety & Crime Prevention	22%	\$ 66,000.00
Housing, Economic Development & Community Reinvestment	23%	\$ 69,000.00
Total	100%	\$ 300,000.00

How much funding is available?

The CEF is capitalized with \$300,000. The maximum award that will be made from the CEF is \$25,000, and the minimum award is \$500. However, the maximum award for individuals is \$5,000. All successful grantees must register with the City of Tallahassee as a vendor and provide an Employer Identification Number (EIN) or a Social Security Number (SSN). Please note that any tax implications associated with accepting the grant funds are the responsibility of the grantees.

What are the eligibility criteria?

Applicants

Applicants must be a Frenchtown resident, Frenchtown organization, Frenchtown business, nonprofit or entity. Non-Frenchtown entities may apply in partnership/collaboration with a Frenchtown resident, Frenchtown organization, Frenchtown business or Frenchtown nonprofit or entity.

Projects

All proposals must fall within one of the six established funding categories and implement an action item(s) from the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan and/or further implement the outcomes stated in the plan. All services and projects must be performed within the boundaries of the Frenchtown neighborhood. See map on page 7 of the Neighborhood First Plan.

Project Timeframe

All proposals must be completed within 1 year from the date of receiving funding. Extensions may be requested and granted only with written consent of approval.

How many times can I apply to this grant?

Applicants may apply for multiple CEF grants in the same funding cycle so long as the proposals are in different funding categories and the cumulative total funding awarded does not exceed to the established maximum award limits.

Is this a matching grant?

Yes. Grants provided by the CEF are designed to leverage the skills and resources of Frenchtown residents and stakeholders in implementing the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan and require a small match. Applicants must provide ten percent (10%) of the requested funding amount. The required match may be in cash, in kind donations, and/or volunteer hours (calculated at \$28.54/hour). The required match must be outlined in the proposed budget.

What type of evaluation measures are required for the grant?

Given the variety of grant proposals that will be funded, measures for the evaluation the success/impact of each project will be developed on a case by case basis, unique to each project to ensure the measures are feasibility.

- All grant proposals must provide a minimum of 5 measures to evaluate the achievements of their projects
- Proposed measures can include inputs as well as outcome measures that show the impact the proposal will have on the Frenchtown community
- The Frenchtown CEF Grant Review Committee can suggest changes to the measures proposed for a project and/or offer additional measures
- All agreed upon measures will be documented in the grant agreement and all status reports as well as the final report due at project completion must state the progress made to achieve project's goals.

Will I have to report on the implementation status of the project?

A final/closed out project report is required of all grantees. The closed-out report will be reviewed and must be approved in order to receive the final grant payment. Grantees requesting payment at their six-month mark, must submit a brief project status report, detailing achievements to date and any encountered and/or expected future challenges, including the steps being taken to address these challenges.

Do I need to complete and submit a budget with my grant proposal?

Yes, a formal budget needs to be submitted with every grant application in order to be deemed complete, and to be forwarded to the Grant Review Committee for review, scoring and funding consideration. The budget

must outline what expenses will be paid for with CEF funds, and what expenses will be paid for/provided by the 10% required match. See budget template below in Table 3.

<u>Frenchtown Community Engagement Fund</u> <u>Budget Template</u>			
Budget Cost Categories	CEF Funds	Matching Funds	Narrative
Compensation for program staff			
Professional fees			
Admin (Occupancy/Utilities/Phones/Networks, Postage, Equipment Rental & Maintenance, Insurance)			
Program Supplies			
Meeting Costs/Travel/Transportation			
Awards/Recognition			
Other: Please List Specific Category			
TOTAL BY FUNDING SOURCE			
PROJECT TOTAL			

How will grant funds be disbursed?

Funded grantees must register as a vendor with the City of Tallahassee to receive their grant funds. City of Tallahassee vendor registration information can be found at talgov.com. Each grantee will execute a grant contract with the City of Tallahassee. The contract will stipulate how and when grant funds will be disbursed. CEF grants will be distributed as follows:

Projects with short duration and one-time events:

- Seventy-five percent (75%) of the grant funds is eligible for distribution upon execution of the grant contract

- The remaining 25% of funds will be distributed at the completion of the project and upon the submittal, review and approval of the final report

Projects with longer duration up to 1 year:

- 50% of funds distributed up front
- 25% of funds distributed at 6-month mark
- Final 25% of funds distributed with final report at project completion

What is the project status reporting process?

All projects must have a submit a “Project Status Report” form at the 6-month timeframe in order to funds to be distributed. This form details the progress made and any challenges, if any. This report will accompany the invoice for payment at the 6-month interval.

A final Project Status Report form report is due at the conclusion of the project detailing all progress of the program, challenges if any, in addition to the final invoice requesting final payment distribution.

Payment distribution will not occur without a report form.

How do I receive an application?

Applications for the CEF are available on Neighborly Software at www.talgov.com/neighborhoodservices or by contacting neighborhoods@talgov.com or 850-891-8795. Applications are required to be fully completed in the electronic prescribed form in order to be reviewed by the Grant Review Committee for consideration for funding.

When can I apply for CEF funding?

Applicants must fully complete the electronic application and submit it to the City of Tallahassee within the application window to be considered for funding. Applications submitted outside of the prescribed application window will not be considered for funding. The current application window opens May 9, 2022 for 45 days.

Application Assistance

Neighborhood Affairs will host workshops to explain the application process in detail to prospective applicants, and Leon County Community Navigators will be available to assist in person one on one with the application process. Questions may be directed to Jillian Driscoll: 850-354-1926, or Jillian.Driscoll@talgov.com or Neighborhoods@talgov.com.

How are applications selected to be funded?

The CEF is a competitive grant program. As such, its intended to fund the most impactful proposals that will benefit the Frenchtown community. All grant proposals will be reviewed by the Frenchtown Grant Review

Committee and will be scored utilizing the scoring criteria and points listed below. Scored applications will be ranked for funding. 15 bonus points will be added to Frenchtown Residents¹. See Table 4 below for the points available for each application section used to score each application.

Application Section	Points
Project Description	35
Project Team/Capacity/Expertise	15
Neighborhood Impact	20
Community Support	15
Budget	15
Total	100

When will I know if my project is funded?

Applicants will be notified via email within 21 days of the close of the application window whether their proposal has been selected for funding.

What is the grant review process like?

The CEF is administered by the Frenchtown Community Action Team with staff support and oversight from the City of Tallahassee Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department and Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency.

- Grant applications will be reviewed by the Frenchtown CEF Grant Review Committee. Members of this committee will be appointed/selected by the Frenchtown Community Action Team through an open recruitment process.
- The grant review process will assess the feasibility of each proposal, determine that applicants and their proposal meet the grant eligibility criteria and implement at least one action item from the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan.
- The score of each grant reviewer will be averaged to determine the overall score of each grant proposal. Scored applications will be ranked for funding decisions.
- The Grant Review Committee’s final recommendation will go the Frenchtown Community Action Team Leadership for transmittal to the City.
- Neighborhood Affairs and the Tallahassee CRA will review all proposals recommended for funding to ensure consistency with the funding criteria/guidelines, contracting, and grant management.

What is the Grant Review Committee?

The Grant Review Committee is the group of individuals from the Frenchtown neighborhood that the Frenchtown Community Action Team has appointed to review each application for the CEF. Members of the Grant Review Committee are residents and active Frenchtown stakeholder. They will review assigned grant

proposal and use the scoring criteria established for the CEF to score each application. If you would like to serve on this committee, please reach out to Neighborhood Affairs.

Will preference be given to Frenchtown residents?

Frenchtown residents will receive an extra 15 points. The entire committee will discuss and agree on a numeric score for each proposal and will recommend which proposals to fund to the CAT Team Leaders and the Neighborhood Affairs Division. The highest ranked applications per funding category will be funded first until funds are exhausted.

A Frenchtown resident is defined as a homeowner or renter who has lived in Frenchtown for at least 6 months.

What are my tax implications for receiving a CEF grant?

All individuals and entities who are awarded the CEF grant should check with a tax professional as there may be tax implications.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. **Location**
The applicant and proposed project must be located within the Frenchtown neighborhood of Tallahassee.

2. **Participation**
Applicants must be a Frenchtown resident, Frenchtown community-based organization, Frenchtown business, Frenchtown nonprofit or entity. Non-Frenchtown entities may apply in partnership/collaboration with a Frenchtown resident, Frenchtown organization, Frenchtown business or Frenchtown nonprofit or entity.

3. **Neighborhood Impact**
The proposed project/programming/event must address an action item directly from the Frenchtown Neighborhood First Plan and be of significant impact to the neighborhood.

4. **Funded Project**
Funded projects must be well planned, adequately budgeted and ready for implementation. The grant application must be filled out thoroughly and correctly. All participants, or those who may be affected, must have been informed and concur with the project. Details such as timing, communication and grant administration have been considered. Applicants shall include a description of plans for any necessary government or agency permits and regulations.

City of Tallahassee

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Appendix

Funding Definitions

- Full definitions of Funding Categories
- Frenchtown Resident
- Frenchtown community-based organizations, Frenchtown businesses and Frenchtown nonprofits
- Non-Frenchtown applicants

Funding Categories

To direct and focus funding decisions and to ensure that prioritized services, projects, and initiatives are funded, the Community Engagement Fund has established six (6) funding categories. Funded projects must meet the intent of one or more of these funding categories. Applicants must identify the primary funding category for their grant proposal, and if applicable, up to two secondary funding categories. Applicants are encouraged to design their grant proposals to further the intents of several funding categories.

The funding categories are defined below:

Beautification, Placemaking & Neighborhood Image:

The Frenchtown Community Engagement Fund seeks to fund proposals focused on creating a sense of place through positive management, programming, and use of public space, to protect and enhance the historical attributes of the community, and to improve the physical environment of Frenchtown on physical aesthetic and external environmental health enhancements based on norms established by the community to create a positive long term, visual impact.

Examples of projects/initiatives: Monthly block clean ups, coordinated neighborhood sweeps with various City departments, landscaping to eliminate blight, collaborate with organizations such as the Climate Leadership Engagement Opportunities (CLEO) to educate/train the community re climate issues, sustainable programs/community gardens, expanding on signature Frenchtown architectural characteristics, neighborhood signage with the fleur-de-lis icon, expand Soul Voices heritage trail.

Example of supporting Action Items:

- Action Item P&NI 1.4.1: Coordinate monthly neighborhood cleanup activities, including Neighborhood Sweeps that address the whole neighborhood.
- Action Item H&RE 4.1.2: Organize and host recurring and creative community gatherings and events (i.e., potlucks, movie nights, community cookouts, neighborhood cleanups, etc.).
- Action Item NS&CP 1.1.1: Provide free or low-cost maintenance of trees and landscaping for residents who could otherwise not afford it to encourage target hardening of homes.
- Action Item NS&CP 1.1.1: Provide free or low-cost maintenance of trees and landscaping for residents who could otherwise not afford it to encourage target hardening of homes.
- Action Item P&NI 1.1.8: Install public art that portrays the character or history of the community.
- Action Item P&NI 1.2.1: Adopt and use the fleur-de-lis icon as the official logo for Frenchtown. Use the logo in all Frenchtown related events, flyers, etc.
- Action Item P&NI 3.2.3: Add seating throughout the neighborhood. (Ex. Fred Lee Plaza)

Community Organizing:

The Frenchtown Community Engagement Fund seeks to fund proposals focused on the promotion efforts that lead to the establishment of a broad-based neighborhood organization that provides support for residents, facilitates neighborhood advocacy and foster a greater sense of community in Frenchtown. Organizing efforts shall provide oversight, guidance, and coordination that aligns with the plan and work collaboratively with community members to foster and enhance trust through these collaborations, a framework of guiding

principles can be developed that respect the right of all community members to be informed, consulted, involved and empowered.

Examples of projects/initiatives: Meetings, group facilitation and other organizing events result in the establishment of a broad-based neighborhood organization, development/hosting of youth sub-groups/listening sessions, and community leadership training and development, CAT team and City Officials meetings to engage neighborhood, Frenchtown leaders empower residents to attend and represent at City/County meetings.

Example of supporting Action Items:

- Action Item H&RE 8.3.1: Provide opportunities for elected officials to engage with residents at community events
- Action Item H&RE 8.2.3: Attend and represent the neighborhood at city and county commission and school board meetings.
- Action Item H 1.1.3: Solicit pro-bono services from architects, including landscape architects and designers, to offer residents design services, where needed, for housing rehab and facade improvements.

Health/Wellness:

The Frenchtown Community Engagement Fund seeks to fund proposals focused on the health/wellness realm to positively benefit residents physical and mental health across generations. Promotion and maintenance of the physical and mental health and safety of Frenchtown residents through elimination of environmental hazards, and strong marketing of available social services throughout the community that will augment individual pride, self-confidence and growth.

Examples of projects/initiatives:

A neighborhood ambassador program that helps residents receive/access the healthcare benefits that are available to them; Partnerships with medical centers to provide supplementary physical and mental health services, renovation of vacant lot/vacant building to create recreation/wellness center, and health/wellness empowerment programs.

Example of supporting Action Items:

- Action Item H&RE 3.1.4: Partner with Neighborhood Medical Center at the Lincoln Center to promote and connect residents to the services that it offers.
- Action Item H&RE 3.1.7: Creation of recreational, wellness, employment and/or training services to address gaps in service
- Action Item H&RE 3.1.3: Creation of health/mental health services to address gaps in service.
- Action Item H&RE 3.1.3: Work with existing healthcare and wellness services providers to expand current services and wellness activities within the neighborhood.

Social Services:

The Frenchtown Community Engagement Fund seeks to fund proposals focused on a variety of services identified by the community to empower and promote overall welfare of residents. Focuses may include but are not limited to medical, social work, legal, financial, elder care and youth services and, the participation of groups such as the library, law enforcement, various higher education institutions, and relevant government staff. All services must be provided within Frenchtown neighborhood limits and further the Neighborhood First Plan's action items related to social services.

Examples of projects/initiatives:

Legal services providing resources on heirs' properties, medical providers servicing Frenchtown, life skills coaching, development for youth and families, development of a virtual and hard-copy directory of community, homelessness advocacy and supports, and a resource guide of local health care providers and services.

Example of supporting Action Items:

- Action Item H&RE 7.1.1: Develop a resource referral list to provide to those in the community who are homeless or are in danger of becoming homeless.
- Action Item H 3.1.1: Work with community partners to provide affordable legal services to assist families to obtain a clear title to their inherited homes and to draft wills and/or legal instruments that pass their properties on to their heirs.
- Action Item ED&CR 2.1.5: Enhance and promote the resources/services of the Frenchtown Heritage Hub.
- Action Item H&RE 3.1.2: Develop a database of the healthcare and wellness services providers that are in the neighborhood and surrounding areas and share the database with Frenchtown residents.

Neighborhood Safety & Crime Prevention:

The Frenchtown Community Engagement Fund seeks to fund proposals focused preventative measures to improve the safety of the Frenchtown residents. Proposals provide innovative ways to deter events that influence crime in the community using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) tactics with a multidisciplinary approach to address the reduction of crime through urban and environmental design, and the built environment.

Examples of projects/initiatives:

Projects/programs that incorporate the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) tactics such as eliminating vacant structures and lots, maintaining exterior properties to prevent crime are encouraged. Partnerships with law enforcement agencies, campaign to reduce crime, and community block groups.

Example of supporting Action Items:

- Action Item NS&CP 1.1.3: Conduct or update the street lighting survey for the neighborhood and enhance/install, where warranted, additional street lighting fixtures. Prioritize Goodbread.
- Action Item NS&CP 1.1.2: Identify creative uses for vacant structures and lots within the neighborhood.
- Action Item NS&CP 1.1.4: Maintain existing open/recreational spaces and vacant lots throughout the neighborhood in a CPTED compliant manner.
- Action Item NS&CP 1.1.5: Promote maintenance of trees and landscaping to prevent crime through educational literature, social media, and partnerships with TPD.
- Action Item NS&CP 2.5.2: Host a Public Safety Fair in the neighborhood.
- Action Item NS&CP 2.1.2: Partner with businesses and non-profit organizations to host public safety workshops in the neighborhood.
- Host safety and security trainings for houses of worship and religious meetings. (Action Item NS&CP 2.5.3)

Housing, Economic Development & Community Reinvestment

The Frenchtown Community Engagement Fund seeks to fund proposals that educate, incentivize and empower Frenchtown residents to cultivate thoughts and action toward fostering income equality and wealth accumulation.

Examples of projects/initiatives:

Host events and/or workshops that promote the benefits of homeownership and value of remaining in the community (“You don’t have to move out of your community to live in a better one”) and invest in Frenchtown and buy in Frenchtown.

Example of supporting Action Items:

- Action Item H 5.1.3: Develop a homebuying program for Frenchtown residents that incorporates homebuyer and home maintenance education, credit counseling, down payment assistance, after-purchase coaching and an after-purchase emergency fund.
- Action Item H 4.1.1: Incorporate age-appropriate financial education with concepts of homeownership included at neighborhood schools.
- Action Item H 4.1.2: Host regular workshops about the importance of homeownership as a pathway to wealth in the neighborhood
- Action Item H 5.1.2: Conduct homeownership and credit building workshops in the neighborhood.
- Action Item ED&CR 2.1.1: Host workshops in the neighborhood to educate/inform residents about current and available small business development resources, grant writing and financial education.

Definitions

Frenchtown Resident: A homeowner or renter who has lived in the Frenchtown neighborhood limits for at least 6 months.

Frenchtown community-based organizations, Frenchtown businesses and Frenchtown nonprofits: Organizations, businesses, and nonprofits that are physically located in the Frenchtown neighborhood.

Non-Frenchtown applicants: Applicants that do not reside in Frenchtown, and are not a Frenchtown community-based organization, Frenchtown businesses and Frenchtown nonprofits.