



2026 City of Evanston Love Your Block Awardees

2nd Ward

Project	Project Description	Awarded Amount
<p>Restoring Pride on McDaniel Ave: Porch Safety, Curb Appeal, and a Little Free Library for Our Block</p>	<p>This project will revitalize the front exterior of a resident's home, improving safety, accessibility, and curb appeal for a homeowner with limited mobility. Planned upgrades include renovating the porch stairs and landing with a new handrail, repairing and repainting the fence and entryway, and adding vibrant, resident-maintained flower boxes.</p>	<p>\$2,200</p>
<p>Community Pollinator Garden</p>	<p>This project will transform underused spaces in Church Street Village into vibrant pollinator gardens by clearing debris, adding fresh soil, and planting perennial flowers that support insects. The effort will enhance neighborhood beauty while engaging residents, including children, in hands-on garden creation and long-term stewardship.</p>	<p>\$800</p>



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<p>Safe Steps and Seasonal Pride</p>	<p>Safe Steps & Seasonal Pride improves neighborhood safety and curb appeal by repairing a hazardous sidewalk drop and adding low-maintenance, seasonal landscaping that creates a more welcoming environment for pedestrians. These enhancements will transform the front yard into a safer, more attractive space that reflects long-standing community pride and encourages neighborly connection.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">\$2,500</p>
<p><u>Evanston's Spectacular Urban Forest</u></p>	<p>This initiative aims to deepen community connection to Evanston's urban forest by labeling parkway trees with easy-to-read "Tree Rings," or elegantly painted tree names on sidewalks that spark curiosity and learning. With support from Love Your Block, the effort will pilot and refine this low-cost, scalable approach in the 2nd Ward while engaging volunteers and gathering feedback for potential citywide expansion.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">\$1,800</p>



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Front Porch Repair	The project will improve safety, durability, and curb appeal by repairing and refinishing the deteriorating front porch, reinforcing railings, and adding protective, low-maintenance landscaping.	\$1,905
Exterior Upgrades	This project involves repairing, scraping, and painting the windows and doors of a senior home.	\$2,500
5th Ward		
Project	Project Description	Awarded Amount
Empty Lot Beautification	This project involves transforming a vacant lot near Jackson and Emerson into a temporary community flower garden that restores color, beauty, and a sense of care to a space left empty after nearby home demolitions. Through collaborative planting and maintenance efforts led by residents and community partners, the garden will honor neighborhood history while reconnecting the block through shared stewardship and reflection.	\$2,500



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<p>Alley-Side Restoration & Senior Support Project</p>	<p>This project will address exterior cleanup and restoration at a long-standing family home by removing accumulated debris, clearing access barriers, and improving overall site safety and maintenance conditions. These improvements will enhance accessibility for an elderly resident, reduce public health concerns related to pests, and restore curb appeal by repairing fencing and removing visual blight from the property and alleyway.</p>	<p>\$2,500</p>
<p>Twiggs Park Neighborhood Litter Clean Up</p>	<p>This project proposes a multi-step litter prevention and reduction program in Twiggs Park area that begins with a community cleanup kickoff event and continues with a lending system for cleanup supplies, new trash receptacles, and permanent signage to support ongoing maintenance. The effort is designed to build sustained community engagement and partnerships with the City of Evanston and local organizations to create lasting infrastructure improvements that reduce litter and strengthen neighborhood pride.</p>	<p>\$2,000</p>



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Siding Repair	This project will remove and replace damaged lap siding on the southwest upper portion of the building to address deterioration and protect the structure from further damage. The finished work will be painted or otherwise matched to the existing exterior for a clean, cohesive appearance.	\$2,500
Deloris Holmes Memorial Bench	This project proposes installing a memorial bench in front of the Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center to honor Ms. Deloris Holmes for her lifelong leadership and service to Evanston. The bench will feature an engraved quote and serve as a lasting tribute to her contributions to family support services, youth programs, and community advocacy.	\$1,500
Falling Siding Repair	This project involves replacing failing exterior siding on a home along with improving front-yard landscaping to enhance curb appeal.	\$2,335



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Flower Bed Retaining Wall	This project involves repairing and painting the front porch and installing a new railing to improve safety and appearance. It also includes adding a raised flower bed along the open fence line to enhance curb appeal and provide low-maintenance landscaping.	\$2,335
Evanston Community Fridges - CNE Fridger and Baby/Toddler Pantry	This project involves rebuilding and improving the structure surrounding a community fridge and adjacent pantry to ensure it remains safe, accessible, and easy to use. It will also relaunch the site as a dedicated Baby/Toddler Pantry, creating a centralized mutual aid resource for infant and toddler food and care items while improving organization and access for caregivers	\$2,500
8th Ward		
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<p>Brummel Park Social Gathering Space</p>	<p>This project involves installing a picnic table on an existing concrete pad in Brummel Park. These improvements will support ongoing community-building efforts by providing seating and a more functional area for socializing, shared meals, and activities.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">\$2,500</p>
<p>Little Free Library/Resource Exchange at Brummel Park</p>	<p>This project proposes installing a multi-resource Little Free Library near Brummel Park to provide free books and shared community items, such as school supplies, art materials, and seasonal essentials. Paired with community-led painting, native plant landscaping, and accessible design features, the site will serve as a welcoming, multilingual neighborhood hub that expands literacy access and strengthens community connection.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">\$1,400</p>
<p>Public Green Space Crosswalk Beautification</p>	<p>This project proposes installing a permanent, decorative crosswalk mural at the entrance of Elk Park/Kee Lee Tot Lot to improve pedestrian safety and increase visibility along a heavily used neighborhood crossing.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">\$2,500</p>



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9th Ward

Project	Project Description	Awarded Amount
Reba Park Native Plant Garden	This project will support the installation of a native plant garden at Reba Park. Education Center signage, along with features such as birdhouses and a bug hotel, will be installed.	\$2,500
Slow Down on Elmwood	The project will install “Children at Play” signals at intersections and add “Slow, Children at Play” signage, incorporating artistic elements into their design. It also includes painting intersections or crosswalks as functional artwork to highlight pedestrian areas.	\$2,500



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Native Plants on Reba Place!	This project will build community among Reba Place neighbors while improving neighborhood beauty and wildlife habitat by supporting residents in learning about, selecting, and installing native plants in their front yards. It will provide educational gatherings, individualized consultations with a native plant landscaper, starter plants for participants, and an ongoing neighbor network to support long-term care and maintenance.	\$2,500
The Magic Garden	The project will enhance a creative, whimsical garden featuring found sculptures, artifacts, and repurposed materials like broken pottery and utensils. It will also expand the planting of native, pollinator-friendly plants to enrich the garden's character and ecological value.	\$1,225.00