



City Council Communication

AGENDA DATE: May 18, 2026

LEGISTAR ITEM #: 26-030

PRESENTER: Charles Dukes
Office

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's

<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Business	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noticed Council Business
<input type="checkbox"/> Informational Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Consensus-Building Presentation

BACKGROUND/REQUEST

I move to direct the City Manager to explore the development of a Neighborhood Improvement Grant Program that supports City Council goals related to economic investment, neighborhood revitalization, public safety, and quality of life by empowering residents to lead visible, community-driven improvement projects throughout Commerce City.

The program should evaluate small-scale grants for neighborhood groups, residents, nonprofits, and community organizations supporting projects such as beautification, community cleanups, public safety efforts, youth engagement, murals, gardens, lighting improvements, and neighborhood events that strengthen community pride and encourage local investment.

As part of this exploration, staff should:

- * Review successful models from programs such as Love Your Block, KaBOOM!, City of Denver Neighborhood Equity & Stabilization Program, and Aurora Neighborhood Improvement Grant Program
- * Identify funding sources and implementation options
- * Develop a simple and accessible application process
- * Explore a pilot structure totaling no more than \$25,000 annually

Staff may also evaluate:

- * Tier 1 grants up to \$1,000 with fast-track approval
- * Tier 2 grants up to \$5,000 with light review

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION CONTINUED

Priority areas may include:

- * Public safety
- * Youth engagement
- * Beautification
- * Community connection

Staff should return to Council via a study session within Q4 of this year with recommendations, estimated costs, and implementation options for future consideration.

Co-Sponsor: José Guardiola