

Community Leaders Grant Narrative Response Examples

SECTION 3: TELL US ABOUT YOUR GROUP'S WORK

Please note that from this point forward, all the questions relate to the one specific project for which you and other members of your group are submitting this application.

1. What is the name of your project?

Pedestrians Over Wheels

2. In no more than 200 words, tell us your group's story! Please describe your group's mission, major accomplishments, and any quotes from community members on the impact of your group's work.

Our group, Brooklyn's Cyclists United, is dedicated to advocating for the equal rights of cyclists and promoting sustainable transportation in New York City. Our mission is to educate the public on the environmental impacts of their everyday decisions and encourage them to embrace car-free transportation options.

One of our major accomplishments has been influencing shifts in New York City governance, resulting in the removal of cars from Central Park, establishment of bike lanes and greenways, and greater recognition and support for community gardens.

Community members have expressed their support for our work, with one saying: "Brooklyn's Cyclists United has been instrumental in making our city a safer and more environmentally-friendly place to live. Their commitment to public safety and sustainable transportation is truly inspiring." Another community member stated: "Thanks to Brooklyn's Cyclists United, I feel empowered to make greener choices in my everyday life. They have shown me the importance of embracing car-free options and how having less cars on the street make NYC a more livable city for everyone." We are proud to have such a positive impact on our community and will continue to work towards a greener, more equitable future for all New Yorkers.

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3. In no more than 400 words provide a detailed project description. The description should include answers to each of the following questions (approximately 100 words for each): Why is the project needed in your community?

This project is needed in our community because it aims to address a common issue faced by cyclists - the lack of bike pumps and patch kits throughout the city. While there may be infrastructure for biking, the fear of getting stranded due to tire issues can deter people from choosing this sustainable mode of transportation. By providing free handheld pumps and patches at our DIY bike repair workshops, we hope to empower and support new bikers in our community. This will not only make biking more accessible, but also contribute to a greener and healthier city for all residents.

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How will the project conduct outreach to existing and new members in the project?

Our project will conduct outreach through various channels, including partnerships with local environmental organizations such as City Growth and 360KingsCounty. By sharing our free bike pumps and patch kits with their members, we hope to increase awareness and interest in our organization and promote biking as an ecological activity. Additionally, we will utilize social media platforms, advertise at our museum space in Manhattan, and distribute flyers in Brooklyn to reach out to existing members and attract new ones. This multi-pronged outreach approach will allow us to connect with a diverse audience and expand our impact within the community.

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How will the project strengthen relationships among community members and project participants?

Riding a bike enables a level of interaction with people and places in community that is not possible through car travel or public transportation. Biking provides the opportunity to meet people, converse, offer assistance if needed and engage with events happening on streets and in parks. Our work putting more bikes on the road means we are providing people with the opportunity to interact with an entire community of positive people.

We hope to strengthen relationships further by speaking to businesses and other community leaders in the neighborhood so that they can get on board with making NYC a greener place. We hope our conversations can help people band together block-by-block and give them the tools to speak to their elected representatives. Our organization is very familiar with speaking and working with government, which most people feel they cannot do because they believe they do not have access to. By speaking to our neighbors, we hope we can encourage people and give

them the information necessary to prepare them to speak up and interact with elected officials so that they're issues are heard. We hope this not only helps people further fight for the cause to have more bikes in NYC, but also helps people gain the knowledge and confidence to collaborate with local government so that they may speak to other issues they hope to seek to remedy in the neighborhood.

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How will the project be sustained after the grant period?

To ensure the sustainability of this project beyond the grant period, we plan to establish partnerships with local businesses and organizations that align with our mission. We will also continue to seek funding through grants and donations from other individuals and corporations. Additionally, we will work towards expanding our network of volunteers and community members who are passionate about promoting sustainable transportation. Through these efforts, we hope to create a self-sustaining community of bikers who support and contribute to our project. This will allow us to continue providing free bike pumps, patch kits, and workshops that will encourage new people to bike more frequently.

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4. In list form, describe your project timeline including the tasks and people responsible for completing your project. Below is an example of a project timeline.

- Purchasing tire patch kits and air pumps – Mid- June 2024
- Assembling volunteers that will distribute materials during the event – July 2024
- Finding a volunteer who is an expert technician to lead workshops – July 2024
- Posting Flyers across the neighborhood and social media blasts – August 2nd and August 9th
- Conduct workshops – August 14th, 2024; September 17th, October 21st, November 18th