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For which project type are you applying? (Choose one – You may apply for more than one type of assistance by completing a separate application form.) Transit Station Activation Project (pilot program)

Transit Station Activation Project

Describe your proposed activation project:

We would like to install an art installation in partnership with local youth at the intersection of 16th street and Sawyer Ave. in North Lawndale. We are currently developing a new commercial building at this address, which will be a new neighborhood amenity offering a cafe and other local programming. The intersection is located two blocks away from a 16th street bus stop, two blocks away from the Kedzie bus stop, and a 10 minute walk away from a pink line train stop. Our project aims to bring awareness of all of these modes of transportation in relation to the new building. Working with youth at local high schools, we would like to paint markers from the intersection to the three stops to encourage the public to use those modes of transit. Once the building opens in September of 2024, we would like to pass out flyers and information to residents of North Lawndale about how they can get to these stops and ideally, use color coded diagrams that relate to the site activations painted on the sidewalk for them to follow. We would like to install colorful benches at each stop, with QR codes that people can follow to get more information about transit in the city.

In short, we would create a small sculpture at the intersection of 16th and sawyer - and then paint a trail on the sidewalk going to each of the three transit stops stated above where people will find a bench with a QR code to learn more about the benefits of transit. We believe using this type of friendly activation will encourage more people to walk and use transit, which will also foster a sense of presence and safety in the neighborhood. The colorful activations will also create a more appealing path to walk on than the edge of empty lots which can be intimidating and dark.

Where will the project take place? (State the name of the transit station or stop and the specific location where the activation project will take place. Please also note the name of the property owner if not on Service Board property.)

The activation will take place at the intersection of the address at 3243 W. 16th St. and the paths going to the following transit stops (1) 16th St. and Spaulding (Stop ID: 6748) (2) Kedzie and 16th St. (Stop ID: 15301) (3) Kedzie Metra Pink line stop

How much funding are you requesting? Please detail the expenses (estimates are fine).

We are are requesting \$20,000 to cover the cost of engaging the public, developing marketing materials for the activation (printed flyers, and digital ads), covering the cost of a small sculpture at the intersection requested (16th and Sawyer), and covering the cost of paint, labor, and permit fees that will take to paint on the sidewalks reaching each stop. We also want to compensate the youth participating in co-designing this intervention. We estimate a team of 5-10 individuals form local high schools.

What is the timeline for this activation? (i.e. What is your thinking about the time of day, day of the week, month, for your proposal)	We aim to start the work upon the announcement of this grant in the summer of 2024, we would start working with youth on the design of the activation in July of 2024 and complete the design by September of 2024. We expect implementing the activation will be complete and available for the public in September or October of 2024. We plan on having a community event at the new building built on 16th and Sawyer in October of 2024.
Will the project process include activities in which the general public will be invited to participate? If so, please describe:	yes. the youth will be invited to co-design the activation following the general plan outlined above. We will also have a community event in october of 2024 where we will invite the comunity to celebrate the new sculpture and learn about the activation. We want to create an opportunity for the youth to present the work and develop skills in the fields of design and community outreach. We would guide the youth participating on how to gather feedback from community and provide them a stipend for their participation.
Is your organization currently in communication with the relevant transit agency and/or property owner? Do you anticipate needing assistance in making contact?	I run the organization that is the property owner. I forsee needing assistance reaching out to the appropriate city organization to obtain permits to paint the sidewalks and install public benches.
Describe any experience you have with implementing something similar to your proposal:	Duo is one of Chicago's lead innovation studios. We have designed and implemented projects ranging from objects, to art installations and buildings. We are currently developing the anticipated building located at the above mentioned intersection which is becoming one of the go-to examples of how to involve communities in the design process and how tocreate spaces that promote health, safety, and bring a sense of beauty to a neighborhood.
What resident or community support do you have or would like to gain for the proposed activation?	We have over 6 years of community input gathered about general needs in North Lawndale that align with the Quality of Life plan. We plan on gathering further feedback and gathering stories from residents specific to the design and installation of this intervention. Furthermore, we expect to go further by co-designing with local youth and bringing their ideas and vision of their neighborhood to life.
Is there any additional information you want us to know?	not at this time.
Please upload a map of where specifically the activation will take place:	https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/16021043427

Closing Questions

How did you find out about the call for projects? (Select all that apply)	Email from my CMAP local government network (LGN) liaison Other: email from a partner resource
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What resources did you find helpful as you apply for the call? (Select all that apply) Instructional videos

How difficult was it to fill out this application? Somewhat difficult
