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GRANT APPLICATION SUMMARY SHEET

Grant Name:	Healthy and Sustainable Communities 26-27
Department:	WATER & SEWER
Grantor:	U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
Pass-Through Grantor (If applicable):	
Total Applied For	$275,000.00
Metro Cash Match:	$0.00
Department Contact:	John Barnett 7192488
Status:	NEW

Program Description:

With funding from the US Conference of Mayors Metro Water Services will complete a solar project at Shelby Park Pump Station.

Plan for continuation of services upon grant expiration:

This is a one time investment.

APPROVED AS TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS:

Jennieen Reed/mjw 10/27/2025 | 8:17 AM CDT

Director of Finance **Date**

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Hannah Baillin 10/27/2025 | 6:55 AM PDT

Metropolitan Attorney **Date**

AP AC

APPROVED AS TO RISK AND INSURANCE:

Balogun Cobb 10/27/2025 | 8:52 AM CDT

Director of Risk Management Services **Date**

Freddie O'Connell (PH) 10/27/2025 | 9:56 AM CDT

Metropolitan Mayor Date

(This application is contingent upon approval of the application by the Metropolitan Council.)

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Grants Tracking Form

Part One

Pre-Application ○ **Application** ◉ **Award Acceptance** ○ **Contract Amendment** ○

Department	Dept. No.	Contact	Phone	Fax
WATER & SEWER	065	John Barnett	7192488	

Grant Name:	Healthy and Sustainable Communities 26-27		
Grantor:	U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS	**Other:**	
Grant Period From:	01/01/26	(applications only) **Anticipated Application Date:**	10/27/25
Grant Period To:	12/31/26	(applications only) **Application Deadline:**	10/27/25
Funding Type:	FOUNDATION	**Multi-Department Grant** ☐ → **If yes, list below.**	
Pass-Thru:		**Outside Consultant Project:** ☐	
Award Type:	COMPETITIVE	**Total Award:**	$275,000.00
Status:	NEW	**Metro Cash Match:**	$0.00
Metro Category:	New Initiative	**Metro In-Kind Match:**	$0.00
CFDA #	N/A	**Is Council approval required?**	☑
		Applic. Submitted Electronically?	☑

Project Description:

With funding from the US Conference of Mayors Metro Water Services will complete a solar project at Shelby Park Pump Station.

Plan for continuation of service after expiration of grant/Budgetary Impact:

This is a one time investment.

How is Match Determined?

Fixed Amount of $		**or**		**% of Grant**	**Other:** ☐

Explanation for "Other" means of determining match:

For this Metro FY, how much of the required local Metro cash match:

Is already in department budget?			**Fund**		**Business Unit**
Is not budgeted?			**Proposed Source of Match:**		
(Indicate Match Amount & Source for Remaining Grant Years in Budget Below)					

Other:

Number of FTEs the grant will fund:	0.00	**Actual number of positions added:**	0.00	
Departmental Indirect Cost Rate	19.10%	**Indirect Cost of Grant to Metro:**	$52,525.00	
***Indirect Costs allowed?** ◉ Yes ○ No **% Allow.**	13.04%	**Ind. Cost Requested from Grantor:**	$35,870.00	**in budget**

***(If "No", please attach documentation from the grantor that indirect costs are not allowable. See Instructions)**

Draw down allowable? ☐

Metro or Community-based Partners:

Part Two

Grant Budget

Budget Year	Metro Fiscal Year	Federal Grantor	State Grantor	Other Grantor	Local Match Cash	Match Source (Fund, BU)	Local Match In-Kind	Total Grant Each Year	Indirect Cost to Metro	Ind. Cost Neg. from Grantor
Yr 1	**FY26**			$275,000.00				$275,000.00	$52,525.00	$35,870.00
Yr 2	**FY__**									
Yr 3	**FY__**									
Yr 4	**FY__**									
Yr 5	**FY__**									
Total		**$0.00**	$0.00	$275,000.00	$0.00		$0.00	$275,000.00	$52,525.00	$35,870.00

Date Awarded:		**Tot. Awarded:**		**Contract#:**	
(or) **Date Denied:**		**Reason:**			
(or) **Date Withdrawn:**		**Reason:**			

Contact: juanita.paulsen@nashville.gov
vaughn.wilson@nashville.gov

JP

Rev. 5/13/13

6123

GCP Received 10/22/25

GCP Approved 10/22/25

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Healthy and Sustainable Communities Grant Awards

The 2025 winners have been announced! Read the press release.

Privacy - Terms

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About the Awards

Since 2012, the Childhood Obesity Prevention/Environmental Health and Sustainability Awards — a partnership between The United States Conference of Mayors and the American Beverage Association for a Healthy America (ABFHA) — has awarded nearly $6 million to cities of all sizes across the country to support programs that aim to improve the health and wellness of the nation's children, families, neighborhoods, and cities.

A total of $1,000,000 in funding will be awarded to nine cities across three population categories: Small City (less than 75,000), Medium City (75,000-250,000), and Large City (more than 250,000).

We are pleased to announce that the program has expanded its scope, introducing a new name and increased investments for winning cities.

Large City	Medium City	Small City
1st Place: $275,000	1st Place: $200,000	1st Place: $150,000
2nd Place: $100,000	2nd Place: $75,000	2nd Place: $50,000
3rd Place: $75,000	3rd Place: $50,000	3rd Place: $25,000

All member cities of The United States Conference of Mayors are eligible to receive this award, including service cities. Each application must include a signed letter of support from the mayor. There is no limit on the number of applications a mayor can support or submit.

This award aims to support programs that engage community members and promote or stimulate behavior change, in the categories of a) healthy communities; b) environmental health

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and sustainability, or c) a hybrid of both. Types of programs eligible for funding include, but are not limited to:

Healthy Communities Initiatives

- Increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables, through the development of school and community gardens, and/or programs that support farmers' markets and/or free or low-cost fruit and vegetable distribution in affected communities
- Cooking and nutrition programs that focus on teaching how to eat better and/or how to prepare healthy meals
- Programs that encourage kids to exercise in and out of school
- Programs that empower community members to engage in educating their community in the decision-making process about issues that directly impact their health and well-being – for example, hiring and training youth advocates

Environmental Health Sustainability Initiatives

- Strategies to encourage and improve residential recycling rates and reduce contamination
- Food waste reduction initiatives, composting, and other waste/landfill diversion programs
- Beach/waterway and other types of community clean-up initiatives
- Projects that promote water conservation
- Projects that develop parks and other open spaces
- Projects that promote alternative transportation options, such as bike paths, and/or enhance neighborhood walkability for residents

Hybrid Programs

- Programs that include strategies to reduce childhood obesity and also address environmental health and safety concerns.

Informative Webinars

- October 2024
- October 2021

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Contact

abfha-awards@usmayors.org

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and Security Needs

- At Site of Oklahoma City Bombing, Bipartisan Mayors Sign Declaration Against Political Violence
- Nation’s Mayors to Washington: Here’s What We Need to Fight Crime

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The 2026 Healthy and Sustainable Communities Grant Awards

1. What's the name/title of the program/initiative you're submitting for consideration? * (Please note that the name/title you provide here will be used in all promotional materials, if your program/initiative is selected to receive an award.) Shelby Park Solar

2. Name of city applying for the award: Nashville

3. State or Territory in which the city applying for the award is located: Select from the drop-menu to the right: Tennessee

4. Please select the population category of the city applying for the award:*

- **Large City (population greater than 250,000)**
- Medium City (population 75,000-250,000)
- Small City (population less than 75,000)

5. Mayor First Name: Freddie

6. Mayor Last Name: O'Connell

7. Specify whether this application is for: (Check the appropriate box)*

- **Expansion of an Existing Program**
- Development of a New Program

Mayoral Staff and Lead Application Contact Information

8. Mayoral Staff Contact Information

- **First Name:** Kendra
- **Last Name:** Abkowitz
- **Email Address:** kendra.abkowitz@nashville.gov
- **Telephone Number:** 615.762.6849

9. Lead Application Contact Information

- **First Name:** John
- **Last Name:** Barnett
- **Email Address:** john.barnett@nashville.gov
- **Telephone Number:** 615.862.4600

Community & Program Descriptions; Mayoral Letter of Support

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10. Community Description/Statement of Need: * Please describe and discuss the target population that will be the focus of the proposed program. Consider this essay a statement of need, essentially. Here you can talk about the population(s) your program/initiative aims to help, and why they might need that help. You may include information on:

- **Overall community demographics and data on socio-economic status;**
- **Community health and/or environmental/sustainability data specifically for the target population(s) your proposed program/initiative will serve; and**
- **An overview of existing resources available to the target population, and how your program will supplement, complement, and/or enhance those resources.**

500-word maximum

Metro Water Services (MWS) is a leading provider of safe, clean, and reliable water and waste services for Nashville, operating two water treatment plants (WTP) and three wastewater treatment plants (WWTP). As with many water and wastewater utilities nationwide, energy consumption represents one of our top operational expenses, accounting for 30-40% of total energy use according to Wilmot Inc., a consulting firm specializing in sustainability solutions; this makes energy efficiency a priority for MWS.

To offset energy costs, MWS began installing solar projects, harnessing renewable energy for the citizens of Nashville. Two initial solar arrays were completed in 2012 and 2013, with the work to expand solar beginning in earnest in 2021. Since then, MWS has completed 6 additional solar projects. These projects brought the total panels from 216 to 10,246. Notably, our first installation at Central WWTP marked the first 'solar services' project within the TVA area. The eight MWS solar projects currently represent 79% of all Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County's solar capacity.

Through the installation of eight solar arrays with a total of 10,246 panels, we have generated an average of a remarkable 650,000 kWh of clean energy annually, boasting a maximum capacity of 4.9 MW. These solar projects not only reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, but also contribute significantly to a cleaner environment for Tennessee and help stabilize customer billing for the future.

Median energy spending in Nashville mirrors the national average of 3.1%; however, half of Nashville’s low-income households spend between 6.4% and 10.9% of their income on energy. This “energy burden” disproportionately impacts low-income Nashvillians, reducing their disposable income and diminishing their quality of life. Reducing electricity usage stabilizes the grid, improving water bill rates for customers of Metro Water Services, many of whom are energy burdened.

The impact of our solar initiative extends far beyond energy generation and cost savings. By producing clean, renewable energy onsite, we significantly reduce our reliance on the Tennessee

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Valley Authority (TVA) grid during peak demand periods, especially during extreme weather events. This not only benefits MWS financially and operationally, but also contributes to overall grid stability and energy reliability for the entire Nashville community.

Furthermore, our commitment to solar power translates to a cleaner and healthier environment. By offsetting traditional energy consumption, our MWS solar projects are estimated to prevent the emission of over 5.067 metric tons of carbon dioxide per MWh according to the EPA's greenhouse gas equivalency calculator. This reduction in emissions contributes to cleaner air for all of Nashville, fostering a healthier and more sustainable future for our residents.

(428/500)

11. Description of the Proposed Program/Initiative:* Please describe, in detail, the program/initiative you propose to implement, should you win the award. Include the rationale for the program and any objective data or results demonstrating anticipated impact. It may be helpful to consider the answers to the following questions as you prepare your response:

- **How will the target population(s) benefit from this program/initiative?**
- **What aspects of your program are unique/novel/innovative?**
- **Why do you believe the program will be effective?**
- **What organizations/city departments will be involved in the implementation of this program, and what will be the specific roles of those departments/organizations?**
- **What are your anticipated program/initiative outcomes, and how will you measure them?**
- **If your proposed program/initiative wins this award, how will the funds be expended?**
- **Can your program/initiative be replicated in different communities?**

(1,000-word maximum)

For over a decade, MWS has been committed to a sustainable future by harnessing the power of the sun. In 2020, Metro Nashville became the first local government to pursue access to utility scale solar power in the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) service territory, paving the way for other municipalities within the region. This pioneering spirit is reflected in our ongoing solar expansion efforts.

The Shelby Park Pump Station is Metro Water Service's next solar installation site, located at 1451 Davidson St, Nashville, TN 37206. This solar installation will be nestled into Shelby Park, a 300-acre multi-use park just two miles from Downtown Nashville along the Cumberland River. Open to the public, Shelby Park is a widely used resource in East Nashville that boasts playgrounds, a community center, a nature center, a dog park, adult and youth ball fields, a golf

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course, a boat launch ramp, picnic shelters, and much more. Located in this popular public park, the Shelby Park Pump Station solar installation will be highly visible to the public.

This solar installation site is located on property owned by the Metro Government. The total square footage available for this solar installation is approximately 7,500 square feet and the maximum combined system size should not exceed 60 kW. This will prevent energy from exporting to the grid, which offers no financial or energy benefit. Once the installation of approximately 80 solar panels is complete, MWS will plant the site with wildflowers, native grasses, and a pollinator seed mix. This will reduce mowing, labor costs, and increase pollinator habitat in Shelby Park.

If awarded, the activities described above will be funded, including solar panel installation, routine maintenance and cleaning, and the planting of native plants after installation. You can find more details about planned expenditure in the budget and budget narrative.

MWS expects this project to reduce grid electricity use by 55 megawatt-hours per year, offering energy cost savings to water rate payers in Nashville and Davidson County. This project will also grow grid stability for all residents of Nashville and Davidson County and even all those within the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) service territory.

The performance of our solar energy systems is continuously monitored and analyzed through a user-friendly online dashboard called AE HMI (alsoenergy.com) that is accessible to both Metro Water Services and General Services. This transparency allows us to track real-time energy production, optimize system performance, and demonstrate the tangible benefits of our renewable energy investments.

MWS's solar portfolio began in 2012, but took off in 2021. The Shelby Park Pump Station solar project is part of MWS's scaling process, aiming to consistently grow Metro Nashville's portfolio of solar assets, reducing the city's reliance on traditional energy sources. Traditional energy sourced from Nashville Electric Service costs $0.082 per kilowatt hour, while solar energy only costs $0.07 per kilowatt hour, offering about a 20% reduction in cost. The benefits to Metro and its residents are significant.

The solar installation at Shelby Park Pump Station, along with MWS's many other solar installations, exemplifies outstanding environmental achievement and embodies a spirit of scalability and leadership. MWS is committed to serving as a model for others, paving the way for a more sustainable future for Tennessee. (535/1000)

12. Mayoral Engagement * How will your Mayor be involved with the proposed initiative? How will the Mayor promote or champion the initiative? Will the Mayor engage directly with those served by the proposed initiative and if so, how? Will the Mayor be involved in ensuring the viability of the program beyond the funding provided by this award? Please provide as many specifics as possible.

(250-word maximum)

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Mayor O'Connell and his administration are supportive of Metro Nashville's goal to be powered by 100% renewable energy resources by 2041. In fact, in 2019, then Council Member O'Connell was a champion for Metro's Renewable Portfolio standard, which was established through legislation he sponsored and which resulted in that renewable energy goal. Metro Water Service's solar project portfolio is critical to reaching that goal. In February 2024, MWS announced its largest solar installation at MWS' Omohundro South Campus. This grounded installation has the capacity to generate 2.6 megawatts of clean, renewable energy. The energy created is enough to offset the energy consumption of approximately 550 homes.

At the event Mayor O'Connell commended MWS for "being a leader in decarbonizing the city's operations." Saying, "Projects like this one put us on the path to securing a clean and reliable energy future for [Nashville]."

In alignment with his previous support, the Mayor's Office will support and celebrate opening of the solar installation at Shelby Park Pump Station, posting and reposting MWS' content when appropriate. (172/250)

13. Please upload your Mayoral Letter of Support. (Required for submission; MUST be in PDF format.) * The letter must be signed by the Mayor, and must be on official City letterhead.

Letter of Support - Solar.docx

14. Budget and Budget Narrative:* Please provide, in a single document:

1. **An itemized budget for the full first-place award amount in your population category, should you win. (Refer to our awards web page for population categories and award amounts.) We understand that you can only be so specific in this instance, but do your best to give us an idea of what your spending priorities would be.**
2. **A 500-word (or less) budget narrative that explains/justifies your priorities AND speaks to which priorities you'd focus on if you receive the second-place award amount ($50,000).**

This document must be in PDF format.

Conference of Mayors Budgets.xlsx

15. Supplemental Information (Optional): Here you can share any relevant information or media that you feel will enhance your application. You may upload a single document, as a PDF, of up to 10MB in size. Please note:

- **Photos or images embedded in the file should include captions that explain their relevance to the proposed project and/or application.**

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- **Renderings of site plans should be identified as such. (Please indicate whether your site plan represents a site as it currently exists or as proposed to be developed should you receive an award.)**
- **Links to documents, videos, or other media that live elsewhere on the internet should similarly be followed by an explanation of their relevance.**
- **Additional letters of support should be on organizational letterhead and signed by an official of the organization, followed by their name and title.**

16. Final Report Requirement:* Please read the passage below and, when you are ready, click on the checkbox next to the text "I understand and agree to these terms:" *As a condition of receiving these funds, all grantees/awardees will be required to complete a final report within 12 months of disbursement of funds (defined as the moment when the grantee/awardee is in receipt of the funds, irrespective of when the grantee/awardee begins the project.) This report shall, at a minimum, contain a brief description of the project as originally conceived and proposed; a discussion of outcomes anticipated, and whether they were achieved; a discussion of challenges faced and how they were addressed; and a report on how funds were expended. Recommended report length is 1,000 – 1,500 words*.

I understand and agree to these terms.

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1. Shelby Park Pump Station solar project location map. Located at 1451 Davidson St, Nashville, TN 37206:

FIGURE 1: OVERVIEW OF SHELBY PARK SOLAR SITE LOCATIONS

Site #1

Site #1, shown above in Figure 1, is the only site at this location and has only a single ground area, "Area A." Area A is on the north side of the property and is approximately 7,500 SF. Small, recently planted tress may need to be moved.

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2. Mayor Freddie O'Connell speaking at the launch event of the Omohundro South Campus solar project in February 2024. This project is Metro Water's largest solar project.

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3. Mayor Freddie O'Connell pulling the "on" switch for the Omohundro South solar project in February 2024.

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METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

FREDDIE O'CONNELL
MAYOR

10/22/2025

Tom Cochran
Executive Director
The United States Conference of Mayors

RE: Healthy and Sustainable Communities Grant, Solar

Dear Mr. Cochran,

I submit this letter of support for the Metro Water Services (MWS) Department's application to the US Conference of Mayors *Healthy and Sustainable Communities Grant*. Funding will support the expansion of our solar portfolio, lowering the city's energy costs. In February 2024, I was excited to attend and support the launch of MWS' newest and largest solar project at the Omohundro South Campus.

The goal of this project is to install approximately 80 solar panels at Metro Water Service's Pump Station in Shelby Park, planting native plants around the panels once they are installed. This installation will increase Metro's solar footprint by 55 megawatt-hours annually, stabilizing our energy grid, increasing grid resiliency, and offering cost savings to Nashvillians.

Solar installation projects offer Nashvillians tangible benefits that improve the overall quality of life in the city. Providing redundancy for our energy grid means that during extreme weather events our residents will continue to have access to electricity, keeping the lights on and families warm. Reducing reliance on traditional energy sources like gas, coal, and nuclear decreases families' monthly water bill, offering them more flexibility in their monthly budgets and decreasing harmful environmental and health impacts.

The Shelby Park Pump Station solar installation will have a positive impact on Nashvillians and our environment for years to come.

Thank you for considering an investment in Nashville.

All my best,

Freddie O'Connell, Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
METROPOLITAN COURTHOUSE • NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37201
PHONE: (615) 862-6000 • EMAIL: mayor@nashville.gov

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Shelby Park Pump Station Solar Project		
January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025		
Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County		
Metro Water Service		
Item	**Cost**	**Description**
Solar Panels	$175,000	Commissioning and installation of approximately 80 solar panels
Operations and Maintenance (O&M)	$13,000	Contract with O&M for service
Cleaning	$5,000	Biannual cleaning of solar panels
Native flowers	$2,500	Labor and supplies to establish a garden of native flowers around the solar panel installation
Educational Signage	$3,000	Signs to educate the public will be placed around the solar array
Project Director	$40,630	Metro Water Staff Member to oversee project implementation
Indirect Costs	$35,870	Administrative costs including rent, utilities, etc.
TOTAL	$275,000	

Budget Narrative

This budget covers all the costs necessary to install and maintain a new project in Metro Water's solar portfolio. With funding, Metro Nashville will purchase approximately 80 solar panels and our Operations and Maintenance team will install them at Shelby Park Pump Station. Once installation is complete, we will plant native plans around the installation to decrease the need for area maintenance and to attract pollinators. Metro Water will also place educational signs around the installation to educate the public on the purpose and impact of the installation. The budget also includes biannual cleaning costs, which ensure the panels are well maintained and able to capture solar energy well. Finally, installation will require internal coordination and administration led by the Project Director. The Indirect Costs will cover Metro Water rent, utilities, insurance, and other operational expenses that allow the department to execute the project effectively.

If this project is funded at a lower amount, we will supplement the budget deficit with Metro Water capital funds, so that the project can continue on schedule.

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APPLICATION FOR Sustainable and Healthy Communities

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

Director
Department of Water Services

22 Oct 2025
Date