

The Gig Harbor Waterfront Alliance Grant Program

The Gig Harbor Waterfront Alliance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2008 to unite community and Waterfront District stakeholders to encourage economic vitality and preserve historic character

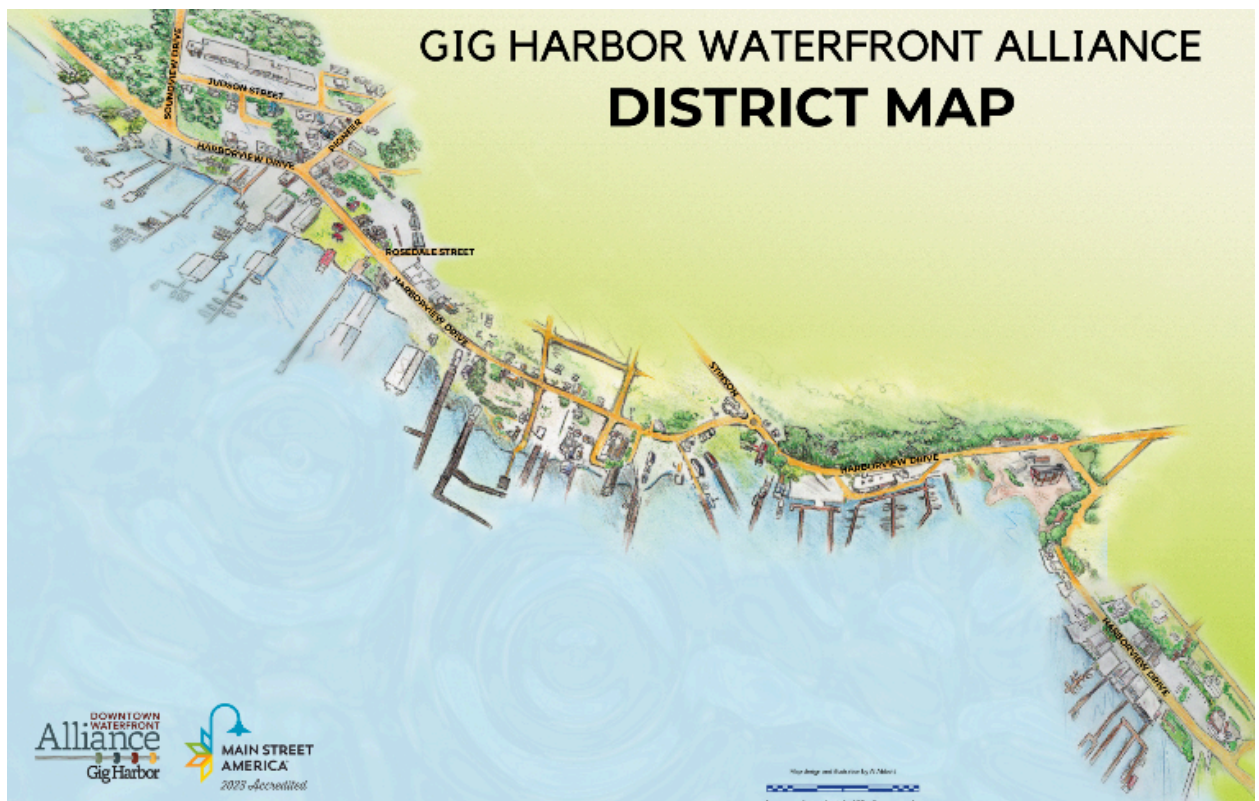
The Gig Harbor Waterfront Alliance is a Nationally Accredited Main Street Organization active in the Washington State Main Street Program. The Alliance is committed to supporting the economic vitality and collaborative spirit of our district and as such has developed this Grant program. The initiative seeks to aid businesses in working together to improve aesthetics, safety and attractiveness to new and frequent visitors thus promoting the overall economic vitality of the area and encouraging visitors to linger and explore.

In 2026 the Grant Program will have two rounds. The first round of applications will open January 1st - January 31st 2026. The second round of applications will open July 1st - July 31st 2026.

For each round in 2026, the Alliance anticipates being able to award \$9,000 in grant funds, a minimum of \$3,000 of which must be earmarked for lighting specific grants thanks to a generous donation from Peninsula Light Co.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

- All property owners, businesses and non-profit organizations with a physical address within Gig Harbor's Waterfront Business District area (see below map for reference) are eligible to apply.



TYPE OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

The Grant Programs seeks to support businesses with funds **for projects and events** they need the most support with; therefore we are not limiting what types of projects businesses may apply for. **However, applications that include free LIGHTING, free community access, events or activities, activate an underutilized space or that have an impact on the greater district as a whole will carry more weight with the committee.**

Examples of projects that have been funded in the past, or might be funded include but are not limited to:

- **Exterior lighting**
- Updated signage
- Beautification
- Collaboration events
- Facade improvements including painting or murals
- Other projects that help uplift the greater district
- Event expenses (excluding alcohol)
- Live music
- Arts & Crafts
- Free public activities
- Small business enhancements

Please be aware funds will not be awarded to fund the provision of alcohol or labor.

Preference will be given to grant applications that enhance the district as a whole or align with the Alliance's new transformation strategy; An Active Waterfront for All and encourages people to shop, dine, linger, stay and explore the waterfront district.

WHEN WILL GRANTS BE ASSESSED AND AVAILABLE

Applications for the first round of 2026 will open Jan 1st 2026 and are DUE by Jan 31 2026

- Initial assessment by mid Feb 2026
- Final determination by committee by the end of Feb/early Mar
- Written notification of grant award by March 15th 2026

GRANT AMOUNT & REIMBURSEMENT

- For the first half of 2026, the Alliance has \$9,000 total to award in small business grants, a minimum of \$3,000 of which must go towards lighting projects. The Alliance may award up to 75% of the proposed grant project costs. In special circumstances, the Committee may award up to 100% of project costs if it is demonstrated and determined that the project contributes to the greater district as a whole, ties to the Alliance's new transformation strategy and has a more broad, long-lasting impact.
- All grants are considered reimbursement grants, meaning the Alliance will reimburse monies awarded within 30 days of receiving your Grant Report along with eligible

receipts. All grant reports and receipts must be received within 6 months of the event or action occurring.

- Grant amounts will be deemed ineligible if they do not adhere to Gig Harbor City code requirements.
- Grants will be deemed ineligible if they are incomplete and/or do not include the provided budget template. Please note a budget is required with ALL grant applications.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Submit your grant application online by visiting <https://www.ghdwa.org/grant-program>
- You can find a copy of the required budget template to upload with your application by visiting <https://www.ghdwa.org/grant-program>
- All applicants will be notified in writing of the Committee's decision to approve or deny the Grant application. Approved recipients will be provided with a Grant Report template for submission upon approval of the grant that is due within 6 months of completion of the event or project.
- Any changes to the approved project must be submitted for consideration of the committee as soon as possible.
- Any disputes shall be raised directly with the Gig Harbor Waterfront Alliance Executive Director.

BECOME A DONOR & SUPPORT TO THE ALLIANCE GRANT PROGRAM

- Are you interested in supporting The Alliance Grant Program? Our goal is to triple the amount of grant dollars distributed to businesses in the waterfront district by the end of 2026!
- To learn more about becoming a donor to The Alliance Grant Program or to make a donation, visit <https://www.ghdwa.org/grant-program>