

2008 Innovative Graffiti Prevention Micro Grant Final Report

Number of Recipients: 17

Total Amount Paid: \$136,391.97

Graffiti Prevention Techniques Used and Quantity

Prevention Technique	Number of Grant Recipients	Number of Sites
Education	13	n/a
Lighting	2	2
Mural	12	68
Mosaic	1	1
Rapid Removal	3	504
Vegetation	3	10
Vegetation with Trellis	2	5

Micro-Grant recipients used a multi-faceted approach utilizing more than one technique

Number of Grantees Reporting a Graffiti Reduction: 16

Number of Grantees Reporting a Graffiti Increase: 1

Number of Grantees that Engaged Youth: 13

Average Graffiti Reduction: 78%

Community Involvement	Recipients Reporting	Quantity
Total Volunteers	15	1,082
Total Volunteer Hours	13	7,909.625
Community Members Reached	8	12,243

2008 Brian Coyle for Pillsbury United Communities

Project Description:

Youth theatre production to educate about the importance of graffiti reduction, including ways to reduce graffiti. Youth Mural to prevent graffiti. Business outreach and Graffiti Hot Spot patrols.

Project Outcome:

Collaboration between community organizations made the project successful. The graffiti skit was performed three times. One mural was installed and door knocking and informational flyer were used to provide reporting and removal information to local businesses. Graffiti hot spot surveying and reporting provided crucial insight of things to try in the future.

Education Activities:

Educational graffiti skit engaged 12 youth in creation and performance. The skit was performed for over 275 children and teens over three performances. Informational flyers with reporting, removal and prevention information were distributed to over 75 businesses during the graffiti patrolling sessions which occurred twice weekly.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
1	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

Graffiti sites were abated during each Graffiti Patrol. Graffiti abatement kits were provided to area business which has resulted in 24 hour abatement by at least one business, removal of two graffiti ridden trucks, and the participation of two additional businesses in regularly abating their graffiti.

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 50%

Significant reduction, at least 50%. Did not received full compliance from property owners in prevention techniques. Also saw lack of response with graffiti reported on public properties.

Lessons Learned:

The Neighborhood Safety Committee expressed frustration with the apparent lack of enforcement provided on reports to Minneapolis 311. Community involvement in the Mural process is crucial in order for it to be effective.

Ideas for Future:

Provide a forum for what worked well and what did not work well for continuing similar projects in the future. Create a graffiti reduction task force that includes representatives from the neighborhood and major institutions in partnership with all graffiti removal departments in the City as well as Metro Transit

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$9278

2008 Corcoran Neighborhood Organization

Project Description:

Identify graffiti Hot Spots and create an individualized removal and prevention plan. Empower residents with the knowledge and resources to combat graffiti. Including \$200 mini grants to owners that could provide a 1:2 match.

Project Outcome:

Individualized graffiti prevention plans were created and enacted in seven areas of the Corcoran neighborhood. Prevention plans included vegetation, vegetation and trellis system, murals, installed structure independent mini-murals and increased lighting. 1/3 of all Corcoran Neighborhoods alleys feature a property with visible graffiti prevention measures!

Education Activities:

Community kick-off meeting held for key stakeholders to review victimized properties and identify the best course of prevention using property photographs and surface descriptions. Outreach was conducted on key corridors and blocks offering \$200 improvement grants and prevention techniques and resources. Outreach conducted through mailed letters, follow-up phone calls and door knocking.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
3	3	4	0	1

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 100%

None of the mural sites were tagged after installation

Lessons Learned:

Not all property owners can be persuaded to use graffiti prevention techniques.

Ideas for Future:

Provide mini-grants to all property owners to make graffiti prevention improvements. It would help heighten publicity, visibility and that graffiti can be preventable.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$9060

2008 Cristo Rey Jesuit High School and Mentoring Peace through Art

Project Description:

Train teams of youth to plan, propose, fund, and execute gang graffiti deterrent and preventative murals.

Project Outcome:

Successfully camouflaged 7 sites for over 4,000 square feet of graffiti deterred surfaces. Over 136 participants through volunteerism or formal enrollment. Lessons were viewed over 6,000 times through YouTube.

Education Activities:

Pre-painting lessons were staggered around the clock to reach all participants. Including a digital video on YouTube, both practice sketching and preliminary work training took place in the studio to build skilled participants.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
7	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 100%

None of the mural sites saw any graffiti after installation

Lessons Learned:

Artistic talent was not available as all paid positions were reserved for Cristo Rey students. Great deal of prep work is needed before Mural installation. Longer period of training is desired.

Ideas for Future:

Focus on gang and drug tagging. Unify projects of similar nature to effectively organize and secure resources.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$10000

2008 El Colegio

Project Description:

Graffiti Education based on Graffiti Hurts which was translated into Spanish, as needed. Included Graffiti Abatement and a cooperative Mural Project between the El Colegio High School students and the Bancroft Elementary 5th grade students.

Project Outcome:

Three murals were completed in the alley adjacent to El Colegio High School. The cooperative mural was installed on a corner property visible from Bancroft Elementary. The highlight of this project was the interaction between the High School and Elementary students. The High School students clearly increased their skills and self-confidence as public speakers, role models and emerging artists.

Education Activities:

An educational curriculum was designed by the El Colegio students using the Graffiti Hurts curriculum as a guide. The curriculum was used to explore graffiti issues, and positive and negative ways to impact the community with the Bancroft Elementary students. The educational element changed the students attitudes toward graffiti. The older students then guided the younger students in developing content and images for the mural to be installed near their school. The educational surveys showed that the students were more likely to think before tagging, and appreciate the hard work of keeping a community clean.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
4	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 75%

One of the four murals was tagged one time.

Lessons Learned:

Murals deter graffiti from Mural site, does not deter graffiti from adjacent properties. Can not assume students will return after summer break to continue with project.

Ideas for Future:

Prevention not only includes physical barriers but impacting the attitudes and behaviors of our youth. This requires hands-on community activism.

Amount Originally Approved: \$9200

Amount Allowed: \$9200

2008 Keep America Beautiful

Project Description:

Eliminate graffiti on Utility boxes along Hennepin Avenue to enhance the visual attractiveness of the street scene.

Project Outcome:

Twenty-two of the Hennepin Avenue control boxes were transformed into "art boxes" each with a unique mural and theme.

Education Activities:

N/A

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
22	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 87%

Of the twenty-two art boxes, three suffered graffiti in an area] without design in the four months following the project completion.

Lessons Learned:

Mural sites can still suffer graffiti in the unmarked spaces of the mural.

Ideas for Future:

N/A

Amount Originally Approved: \$9600

Amount Allowed: \$8950

2008 Lake Street Council

Project Description:

Create Green Walls which use a trellis system to grow climbing plants along wall surfaces to reduce graffiti by improving the aesthetics of large wall surfaces and making them less attractive as tagging surfaces.

Project Outcome:

A Green Wall or Vertical Garden was installed on the Lake Street frontage of the Family Dollar store at 1010 Lake Street E. Four vine species were selected (Ornamental Hops, Boston Ivy, Riverbank Grape and Virginia Creeper) and planted by cutting a soil trench along the base of the wall. The trellis system was created by installing 34 recycled metal grates and 500 ft of galvanized cable on the buildings wall creating a geometric design. The Green Wall provides graffiti control and when fully developed will also provide thermal insulation, and sound absorbtion.

Education Activities:

A booth at the Lake Street Festival was dedicated to educating business owners and residents about the project with information on how to install similar walls for graffiti prevention, thermal insolation and sound absorbtion. Final Report is also available to interested persons and has detailed information on design, plant species and installation.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
0	0	1	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 100%

The Family Dollar store was a frequent target of graffiti vandalism. After the installation through November 20th, 2008 the store had not seen a single occurrence of graffiti.

Lessons Learned:

There was no easily accessible water source for curb cutting or intial plantings. The façade's grout did not always provide a stron support for the installation bolts. Determining cable locations to provide both aesthetic and functional effect was a challenge. The City's curb cutting permitting process was also time consuming.

Ideas for Future:

It would be best to close down the sidewalk for projects of this nature and to also prepare permit applications well before the intended start date.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$10000

2008 Longfellow Community Council

Project Description:

Provide a Mural project as a positive outlet for youth, to combat graffiti and curb a trend of rising gang activity and youth crime. Includes education sessions on the legal consequences of graffiti, design, preliminary sketching and installation.

Project Outcome:

Two beautiful Murals were created with the help of 25 youth participants. CCP Safe and Community Connections Committee assisted with various aspects of the project including educational and artistic workshops. The most rewarding result was the pride the youth and adults expressed in what had been accomplished.

Education Activities:

Each mural project had two mandatory youth workshops with a discussion based forum on art, public art, muraling, the negative impacts and legal consequences of graffiti vandalism.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
2	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 100%

Zero incidents of graffiti after mural installation.

Lessons Learned:

The younger group ages 12-14 seemed more resistant to art exercises, brainstorming, and sharing their feelings about the project, asking questions and encouraging one another, than the older group ages Sophomore to Senior.

Ideas for Future:

Similar grant opportunities should include information on how to draft legally binding contracts for the Artist and Owners of the mural sites.

Amount Originally Approved: \$4500

Amount Allowed: \$3000

2008 Lyndale Neighborhood Association

Project Description:

Mural project to prevent graffiti, build community, and create a legacy in the revitalization of Nicollet. Includes graffiti eradication by using Mural project as a platform to educate community members on graffiti reduction.

Project Outcome:

In 4 days over 200 volunteers came together to create ten murals on 8 properties. Five of the 8 properties have since invested additional capital in the outside of their buildings then what was required for the Murals. The project brought two neighborhoods together, with artists from around the country. The focus was graffiti prevention, graffiti reduction and create one of the largest displays of public art in Minneapolis' history.

Education Activities:

The project was able to communicate the importance of combating graffiti through articles in neighborhood publications and neighborhood discussions about the project and its intent. Project hand-book created to guide other neighborhoods through the process of creating a mural project.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
10	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 100%

Only one Mural site was tagged with graffiti after the installation.

Lessons Learned:

A project with so many facets takes time to complete. Had Paintings, Events, and Fundraising all taking place at the same time, stretched the logistical capacity of the involved neighborhoods.

Ideas for Future:

N/A

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$10000

2008 Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Assoc.

Project Description:

Reduce and eliminate graffiti by rapid removal and education. Identify graffiti Hot Spots encourage property owners to remove the damage quickly and supply resources. Create a Mural at 38th and Chicago. Educate and inform the community through Block Cl

Project Outcome:

Education Activities:

Graffiti Hurts curriculum trained 6 youth and 3 adults to train their peers on the Graffiti Hurts curriculum.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
2	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

All 11 sites were abated with in 24 hours.

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 100%

After Mural installation graffiti did not return. Of the 11 identified with graffiti all were abated with in 24 hours.

Lessons Learned:

The Graffiti Removal program has a positive effect on the community and should continue.

Ideas for Future:

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$10000

2008 Saint Paul Evangelical Church

Project Description:

Train and engage youth in Mural and other art forms, exploring community issues and solutions. Create at least one mural as well as other projects that beautify and unite the community. Build trust between MPD and community as well as host youth jams at

Project Outcome:

A large mural was created and installed in addition to a "Take Back the Alley" project which including painting over graffitied telephone poles and two backyard murals. Fifty-two youth received training in mural arts and other art forms. Youth created bi-lingual banners and mini-murals that traveled to two celebration events and performed La Natividad seven times to teach about hope and breaking down barriers that divide the community.

Education Activities:

7 performances of La Natividad a neighborhood Christmas story told by building bird puppets and star lanterns symbolizing hope, bringing peace, and breaking the barriers that divide a community. In addition, 80 area residents and 25 area business owners were interviewed on community issues and crime and safety concerns.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
5	1	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes/No 99%

Prior to the attack in mid-November: In a 2 block radius of the first mural site there were 16 occurrences before the installation and only 1 after the installation. In a 2 block radius of the 2nd mural site there were 33 occurrences prior to the instal

Lessons Learned:

Even the most planned prevention activities cannot always prevent a graffiti attack by feuding gangs. Over 40 garages and homes were tagged with gang markings, including those freshly painted, the 2nd week of November near the end of the project. Also, youth community from summer to school year changes drastically, did not expect the high turn over of youth.

Ideas for Future:

N/A

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$10000

2008 Seward Neighborhood Group

Project Description:

Educate the community on graffiti prevention through posters, lawn signs, video's, and by teaching the graffiti hurts curriculum. Install greenery on chronically tagged walls with soil base, and graffiti release coating on walls with out a soil base.

Project Outcome:

Thirty Boston Ivy plants were planted at the perimeter six neighborhood buildings. Geometric trellis system was installed with 2x2 osmosis treated wood and durable galvanized wire fencing to improve vine attachment. Vines will eventually support the trellis system. The Minnesota Transitional School youth led community education piece did not occur as planned due to neurological illness of leader.

Education Activities:

Did not occur due to leaders severe neurological illness.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
0	6	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 100%

Graffiti has not reappeared on any of the treated surfaces.

Lessons Learned:

Not all property owners can be persuaded to use graffiti prevention techniques.

Ideas for Future:

Application of a non-sacrificial anti-graffiti coating on public street signs, phone and control boxes along with regular removal would be a solution to the heaviest tagging in this neighborhood.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$1249

2008 Standish Ericsson Neighborhood

Project Description:

Conceive, design, install four community designed murals along the 38th Street corridor.

Project Outcome:

As an expansion of the "Take Back 38th Street" initiative two large scale murals were installed on the 3rd and 6th most graffitied buildings along the 38th Street corridor. The property with the highest number of graffiti incidences had 8 mini-murals hung on its walls. The Muralist's process gave the opportunity for all ages and skill levels to participate from 4 years old to skilled artisans.

Education Activities:

N/A

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
10	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 93%

The first Mural site had 1 tag prior to installation and no tags after the Mural installation. Mural site 2 had no graffiti markings before or after the Mural was installed. Graffiti site 3 had 5 incidences of graffiti before installation and 1 occurrence

Lessons Learned:

Community murals are unique in creating a visibly inviting and public project. Those who may not otherwise feel included or interested in community activities may for the first time get involved.

Ideas for Future:

As with any re-imbursment style grant programs, the Innovative Graffiti Prevention Micro Grants require organizations to front the project costs. This may be an issue for other organizations, and will become more prominent with the dwindling funds from the City.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$6665.04

2008 Stevens Square Community Organization

Project Description:

Develop a Graffiti Response team from community volunteers who will clean any graffiti on public property within 72 hours. Educational materials and posters will be created by a local artist to depict the need for assisting law enforcement and community

Project Outcome:

Thirty volunteers dedicated over 236 hours of time abating graffiti within 72 hours of its appearance. Neighborhood residents applauded the reduction in negative graffiti. Private landlords and renters began to participate in the reduction of graffiti by one to one contact and taking an active role.

Education Activities:

Educational material was distributed on three occasions advising residents to report damage to Minneapolis 311 and offering abatement techniques and resources.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
0	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

Graffiti sites were abated within 72 hours during phases from public Right of Way. Phase 1: 04/03/08 - 06/25/08 204 tags removed. Phase 2: 08/7/08 - 09/10/08 118 tags removed. Phase 3: 09/30/08 - 12/19/08 168 tags removed.

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 6%

There was a 42% decrease in graffiti between phase 1 and phase 2 and a 30% increase between phase 2 and phase 3. Average of 6% decrease.

Lessons Learned:

Removing graffiti quickly discourages some taggers, does nothing for new taggers, popular locations were tagged repeatedly by different vandals despite clean-up efforts. No one was arrested or cited for graffiti damage, appears to be a very low-risk activity for criminals. Education in a certain area or neighborhood does not work; we believe most of the people causing this destruction are not from the area.

Ideas for Future:

N/A

Amount Originally Approved: \$3800

Amount Allowed: \$3800

2008 Uptown Association

Project Description:

Youth art activities to reduce the likelihood of illegal graffiti tagging, strengthen community ties, and expose them to the impacts of graffiti while heightening awareness of artistic expression.

Project Outcome:

Successfully educated youth and the community in Uptown about graffiti impacts and existing graffiti programs. Utilized and produced artwork with the aim of curbing graffiti and promote a positive and engaging community. Created an ongoing graffiti prevention and education program using community resources through education and engagement.

Education Activities:

18 Bryant Square Park after school program elementary students participated in Graffiti Hurts curriculum/Penalties and Prevention and Graffiti V. Art seminar, including t-shirt designing. 64 residents and business owners participated in Graffiti Education seminars. 20 area middle and high school students participated in the Operation Black Book seminars. Creating marketable pieces of art using stylized letters. Included graffiti consequences session. Attendees also participated in an "Expose Yourself" kickoff for the Uptown Art Fair and were able to sell their stylized work on paper and canvas.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
0	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 61%

Public property tagging declined by: Litter Containers 76%, Street Light/Traffic Lights: 46%, Traffic Signs 54%, Traffic Boxes 81%, Control Boxes 81%, Sidewalk 67%, Fire Hydrant 0% Meters 88%. Business also reported a significant decline in property dama

Lessons Learned:

After cleaning up graffiti, volunteers could not help but notice all graffiti, and want to abate it as well. Volunteering to remove graffiti has a lasting effect on tolerance of it.

Ideas for Future:

A full year is needed to develop and implement the program and communication strategies. Grants should be awarded earlier in the year.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$10000

2008 Ventura Village

Project Description:

Create a Mural on the concrete embankment located at 16th and 18th Street east to memorialize a Native American that was murdered there.

Project Outcome:

Beautiful mural was designed and installed at the site originally planned.

Education Activities:

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
1	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 100%

No future tagging on the site since the mural installation. No increase in tagging in the Ventura Village neighborhood. Mural plays a positive role.

Lessons Learned:

Lack of experience in conducting work of this nature put the neighborhood people in a vulnerable position when the artist disappeared for nearly a month and refused to work in a positive way on the development.

Ideas for Future:

Provide a session before hand for experienced neighborhoods to and artists can present and coach beginning neighborhoods on how to maximize the impact of intended work. Provide a post-project event to share photographs and how the project was approached.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Allowed: \$7649.9400000000005

2008 Volunteers of America SW Center

Project Description:

Create a community building Mosaic and bridge the generation gap by involving both elementary students and senior citizens. Increase lighting in area of mosaic to prevent tagging as well as other crimes.

Project Outcome:

Over 120 elementary students from Barton Open and seniors citizens from the South West Center attended visioning sessions and mosaic workshops to learn and conceptualize the mosaic. The completed mosaic reflects what the attendees thought of when reflecting on their neighborhood. Graffiti removal and prevention information was distributed through newsletters, articles and presentations.

Education Activities:

Elementary students were taken on a Graffiti walk to identify area graffiti sites. East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood and Calhoun Area Residents received information about Graffiti removal and prevention in their newsletter and the Uptown neighborhood news published a prevention article.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
0	0	0	1	1

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: No -22%

22% increase in graffiti in 2 block radius of Senior Center. Senior Center was NOT tagged.

Lessons Learned:

The mosaic prevented graffiti from on the mosaic. However, and increase in graffiti was seen in a 2-block radius of the Center after its installation.

Ideas for Future:

N/A

Amount Originally Approved: \$8230

Amount Allowed: \$8230

2008 Waite House Youth Programs

Project Description:

Empower youth to become the solution to the graffiti problem through Gang Prevention and education, self expression, graffiti abatement and pride and ownership of the community.

Project Outcome:

The project was a huge success in building community through the mural process which gave an opportunity for the creative expression of Phillips youth. Youth were shown that the gang graffiti epidemic in Phillips is threatening to all neighbors and is not a thrilling or rebellious act. Participants created a personal connection with graffiti and its victims through door knocking, interviews and having owners sign a graffiti abatement waiver.

Education Activities:

Age appropriate play on severity of gang graffiti and how it affects the community was developed by middle and high school students for the k-6th grade students. 38 youth and 85 mentors participated in brainstorming sessions to discuss how gang graffiti makes community members feel, negative impacts of gangs on community and families, work shop with a CSO to discuss impacts of gangs on families, including personal stories of negative impact.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Mosaic	Lighting
1	0	0	0	0

Rapid Removal:

N/A

Graffiti Reduction: Yes 83%

Midtown Phillips saw 42 Graffiti sites abated prior to the start of the program and had only 7 occurrences after the project was completed.

Lessons Learned:

Even with the most carefully planned youth gang and graffiti prevention efforts, feuding gangs blanketed the neighborhood with gang graffiti in mid-November. Mural site was not tagged! The dedication of the youth that participated was shown through their efforts, after the project had ended, to get the graffiti abated!

Ideas for Future:

N/A

Amount Originally Approved: \$9360

Amount Allowed: \$9310