

2009 Innovative Graffiti Prevention Micro Grant Final Report

Number of Recipients:	9
Number of Projects Completed:	9
Total Amount Paid - City:	\$74,146.50
Total Amount In-Kind or Cash Funds - Grantee:	\$97,772.18

Graffiti Prevention Techniques Used and Quantity

Prevention Technique	Number of Grant Recipients	Number of Sites
Education	7	n/a
Graffiti Resistant Paint	1	1
Lighting	2	14
Mural	8	51
Rapid Removal	5	1,626
Vegetation	2	2
Vegetation with Trellis	1	3

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

Number of Grantees Reporting a Graffiti Reduction:	9
Number of Grantees Reporting a Graffiti Increase:	0
Number of Grantees that Engaged Youth:	7
Average Graffiti Reduction:	74%

Community Involvement	Recipients Reporting	Quantity
Total Volunteers	9	486
Total Volunteer Hours	9	3036
Community Members Reached	8	32,197

2009 - Corcoran Neighborhood Organization

Project Description:

Educating the Public on simple and low cost, mainstream graffiti prevention based on the Graffiti Hurts curriculum provided by Keep America Beautiful. Physical installations include murals based on Public Art found in Mexico, lighting and vegetation. Documentation includes pre and post activity reporting and photographing of all neighborhood graffiti.

Project Outcome:

A total of seventeen properties installed graffiti prevention measures including vegetation, trellis systems, murals, mini-murals, lighting and graffiti resistant paint. Prior to mural installations all artwork submitted during the Call for Art was displayed on a bike powered trailer at Corcoran's National Night Out events. Over 140 Corcoran residents voted on the best mural designs for installation through out the neighborhood. The winning designs were then installed using stencils and in some cases hand painting at willing properties. Interest in graffiti prevention was so great that another 17 properties plan to install graffiti prevention measures outside of the grant. In addition, volunteers were able to complete monthly graffiti sweeps reporting the damage to Minneapolis 311 for enforcement and abatement.

Education Activities:

Sharing the message that graffiti is more than vandalism and warrants swift abatement to curtail gang activity. Accomplished through one on one conversations, publications in the Corcoran News and email blasts to subscribers.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Lighting	Education
11	1	3	1	Yes

Rapid Removal:

No, 0 Sites

Graffiti Reduction: Yes, 30 %

Graffiti Markings did not occur on any properties that had Graffiti Prevention measures installed

Lessons Learned:

Not Reported

Ideas for Future:

The Micro Grant timeline did not allow enough time for Artists to prepare and submit designs. Two months was provided for the Call for Art. These two months resulted in a large "waiting" period in the grant.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Paid: \$10000

Amount In-Kind or Cash Funds: \$10041

2009 - El Colegio Charter School

Project Description:

Graffiti prevention through the creation of murals and the education of young people by changing their attitudes and perceptions of graffiti and the difference between graffiti and public art.

Project Outcome:

15 El Colegio Charter High School students worked closely with 5th Grade Bancroft students to create two Civil Rights based murals and to educate them about graffiti and public art. Two additional El Colegio students created a anti-Graffiti PSA, and an additional El Colegio group designed an installed a third Mural at 41st and Bloomington.

Education Activities:

Participating 5th graders were surveyed about their thoughts surrounding graffiti. The purpose of the survey was to obtain qualitative, not quantitative results. Prior to the anti-graffiti education the 5th grade class had little capacity to articulate their thoughts feelings and beliefs around graffiti and could not decipher public art from graffiti. After the anti-graffiti education the 5th grade class could easily describe the difference between appropriate and inappropriate writing or artwork, having permission and not having permission. They could also express that gang related graffiti made them uncomfortable and scared, something that was difficult for the students to articulate before.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Lighting	Education
3	0	0	0	Yes

Rapid Removal:

No, 0 Sites

Graffiti Reduction: Yes, 100 %

Mural property of 4044 16th Avenue South had been plagued with graffiti for at least 5 years. There has not been a single occurrence since the mural installation.

Lessons Learned:

Limited time makes it difficult to integrate multiple educational themes. For example, combining the the Civil Rights based curriculum with the mural class caused some confusion with the class.

Ideas for Future:

Changing the timing of the grant and project activities. The Fall is always a busy time, it would be worth exploring doing this work in the Winter and Spring where there is more planning and implementation time. The City, specifically the Division of Solid Waste and Recycling should be an active partner in implementing city-wide anti-graffiti activities and education.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Paid: \$10000

Amount In-Kind or Cash Funds: \$10029.25

2009 - Kingfield Neighborhood Association

Project Description:

The Kingfield Neighborhood had a two part project. First, four to eight Public Utility Box murals and second 4 alley-length graffiti prevention through the installation of grown vines and/or murals at at least 40 properties.

Project Outcome:

The Kingfield Neighborhood project resulted in the installation of 11 Utility Box wraps, rather than muraling the boxes and 15 properties had murals installed in four alley's. These steps resulted in a 56% reduction in overall graffiti, with a 60% reduction in visible graffiti shadows following abatement and a 45% reduction in graffiti that remained unabated.

Education Activities:

n/a

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Lighting	Education
26	0	0	0	n/a

Rapid Removal:

No, 0 Sites

Graffiti Reduction: Yes, 54 %

Pre and Post project graffiti surveys showed a reduction in overall graffiti from 118 to 52 sites, a reduction in visible graffiti shadows following abatement from 81 sites to 32 sites and a reduction in new graffiti markings that were not abated from 37 sites to 20 sites.

Lessons Learned:

Scope of project was reduced due to cost and timeliness. The utility boxes were initially going to be muralled, the end result was pre-printed wrapping which saved on permitting costs and the time needed for an artist to hand-paint the boxes. The alley-length prevention was reduced to only murals rather than murals and vegetation to allow for wall coverage during the winter. Lack of time to execute individual murals resulted in stenciled images with standard colors saving on Artist time and paint costs

Ideas for Future:

Not Reported

Amount Originally Approved: \$9350

Amount Paid: \$9295.5

Amount In-Kind or Cash Funds: \$9295.5

2009 - Longfellow Community Council

Project Description:

As Graffiti was the only crime that had risen from 2008 to 2009 in Longfellow, this project focused on educating residents about graffiti prevention, abatement and reporting graffiti, preventing graffiti through mural creation and abating graffiti through a removal project and providing on-going abatement support through the creation of abatement kits available to neighborhood residents.

Project Outcome:

the creation and installation of one mural, and the education of multiple residents, and the rapid abatement of 40 graffiti sites, resulted in a huge reduction in graffiti neighborhood wide.

Education Activities:

LCC held a graffiti removal workshop which measured participants knowledge on abating graffiti, reporting graffiti and their likelihood to do either. Over the course of the project they saw an 67% increase in likeliness to report graffiti, a 56% increase in knowledge about graffiti, a 62% increase in knowledge of abatement techniques, and a 50% increase in the likeliness to participait in a similar program in the future.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Lighting	Education
1	0	0	0	Yes

Rapid Removal:

Yes, 40 Sites

Graffiti Reduction: Yes, 85 %

Mural site and two-block radius of site was surveyed prior to and after installation for graffiti occurences. There were 60 sites pre-mural and only 11 sites post-mural.

Lessons Learned:

Giving the involved youth creative control over the mural while pleasing the property owner was challenging. This was resolved by clearly explaining to the business owner that they will have little control over the images in the mural ahead of time. By creating clear expectations LCC was able to ensure that all parties had a positive experience.

Ideas for Future:

Not Reported

Amount Originally Approved: \$3457

Amount Paid: \$3125

Amount In-Kind or Cash Funds: \$4361.48

2009 - Lyndale Neighborhood Association

Project Description:

Neighborhood wide, three tier approach to graffiti. The Graffiti Busters employed residents to locate and abate graffiti, in addition to preparing graffiti abatement kits for use by area residents. The Light-Up Lyndale provided matching grants to property owners interested in improving lighting to prevent vandalism and the third approach was Cover-Up Lyndale a program that offered matching grants to property and business owners who were interested in installing murals and/or greenscaping as a graffiti deterrent.

Project Outcome:

More than 27 properties were served through one or more of the program projects. Light Up Lyndale had eleven residential properties and two commercial properties install a total of 27 lights as an approach to graffiti deterrence, an additional residential property and two commercial properties installed murals to prevent graffiti, another 11 pieces of private property, 47 City Garbage Carts, 33 additional pieces of City Property, and 20 Private Dumpsters had graffiti abated through the Graffiti Busters abatement program.

Education Activities:

Communications on the importance of cleaning up graffiti were distributed through Neighborhood News and Lyndale E-News an approximate circulation of 4,000, while individualized graffiti letters were mailed to an additional 250 property owners

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Lighting	Education
3	0	0	13	Yes

Rapid Removal:

Yes, 111 Sites

Graffiti Reduction: Yes, 72 %

Study area included Lyndale Neighborhood. All prevention sites and rapid abatement sites included in numbers. There were 141 sites originally located, 111 were abated through Graffiti Busters. Post-activity only 40 sites (public or private) were found

Lessons Learned:

When property owners, and others were notified about graffiti, and offered the services of Graffiti Busters and/or the Graffiti Abatement Kit, they often elected to clean up the graffiti themselves.

Ideas for Future:

Improve Grant timing and reduce the amount of graffiti on Public Property, continue to encourage more properties to abate graffiti themselves.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Paid: \$10000

Amount In-Kind or Cash Funds: \$11885

2009 - Pillsbury United Communities

Project Description:

Combination of two distinct populations of youth, latino and somalian to tackle the issue of gang activity, gang graffiti and the prevention of both. The involved youth began with the attitude that they were not valued or that their voices were being heard.

Project Outcome:

95% of all involved youth remained through out the project. Activities were very sucessful in reducing Gang related graffiti and successfully empowered youth changing their attitudes toward graffiti and gang involvement as well as changing the communities attitude towards youth.

Education Activities:

Team building, artistic skills and gang education as well as mural design.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Lighting	Education
2	0	0	0	Yes

Rapid Removal:

Yes, 18 Sites

Graffiti Reduction: Yes, 56 %

Prior to youth education, mural installation or abatement of any graffiti there were 34 sites of graffiti within a 6 block radius. After all activites were completed the final survey showed 14 sites. There were no occurences of graffiti on the properties with a physical prevention installation (Mural).

Lessons Learned:

Youth that are provided with the opportunity to have a genuine positive impact on the community while earning money and learning new skills are less likely to be involved in negetive behavior.

Ideas for Future:

The use of murals on private property has been very successful as a graffiti reduction method, it is believed this would be just as successful on public property.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Paid: \$10000

Amount In-Kind or Cash Funds: \$14398.32

2009 - Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association

Project Description:

This project incorporated two techniques, rapid removal and prevention by mural installation.

Project Outcome:

Neighborhood involvement made the identification and removal of graffiti successful. The youth mural project also worked well by using neighborhood youth, many of which received positive comments about their work.

Education Activities:

Mural project training incorporated the Graffiti Hurts curriculum.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Lighting	Education
2	0	0	0	Yes

Rapid Removal:

Yes, 9 Sites

Graffiti Reduction: Yes, 93 %

There were 10 sites of graffiti within the identification area before the activities took place. Only one site was found post-activities. Neither mural site had been tagged.

Lessons Learned:

Perhaps a project with a single component would be more successful. Youth appear to be more interested in the hands on, long lasting mural project rather than identification of graffiti. Important evaluations should be completed by personell, rather than volunteers.

Ideas for Future:

Amount Originally Approved: \$7000

Amount Paid: \$5300

Amount In-Kind or Cash Funds: \$12080

2009 - Standish Ericsson Neighborhood Association

Project Description:

Expansion of Take Back 38th Street project. Extremely successful in building confidence in the safety of the neighborhood. Projects included Mural creation to prevent graffiti, on the most targeted properties along 38th Street.

Project Outcome:

Grant allowed for the hiring of a Community Muralist who guided the community in the conceptualization and installation of three murals. Community involvement created an increased sense of ownership and unity among neighbors

Education Activities:

n/a

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Lighting	Education
3	0	0	0	No

Rapid Removal:

No, 0 Sites

Graffiti Reduction: Yes, 100 %

Two of the three mural sites did not see any graffiti in the pre-activity count. However, both sites have seen multiple occurrences in the past. The third site saw eight occurrences in the pre-activity count, with zero occurrences post-activity.

Lessons Learned:

Large scale murals are a challenge and each location is unique and water accessibility is cumbersome.

Ideas for Future:

Reimbursement style grants are difficult as the organizations need to front the cost. Research the possibility of using a different grant style.

Amount Originally Approved: \$6426

Amount Paid: \$6426

Amount In-Kind or Cash Funds: \$9790

2009 - Uptown Association

Project Description:

Wipe out of Graffiti in conjunction with Graffiti Education and litter collection. Green space creation at YWCA as part of the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design plan (Graffiti Prevention). Creation of Tile Artwork to depict vision of a safe and beautiful community.

Project Outcome:

Uptown was able to Wipe Out graffiti with little reoccurrence in tagging, in addition to planting flower gardens on a tiered wall to prevent future markings, and educating area youth, business owners, residents and other property owners about Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design.

Education Activities:

Series of classes to inform business owners, community members and home owners about incorporating Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design to prevent crime and graffiti vandalism on their properties. Youth education program to teach alternative ways to use creativity without being destructive.

Physical Installations:

Mural	Vegetation	Trellis and Vegetation	Lighting	Education
0	1	0	0	Yes

Rapid Removal:

Yes, 1448 Sites

Graffiti Reduction: Yes, 77 %

A combination of prevention, education and alternative methods for creativity led to a 77 percent reduction in overall graffiti markings found in Uptown.

Lessons Learned:

In order to fully engage school ages youth the timing of the grant should allow for more Spring work, rather than Fall work.

Ideas for Future:

Change the timing of the grant to allow better coordination with schools. For example, allow for more spring activities rather than fall activities.

Amount Originally Approved: \$10000

Amount Paid: \$10000

Amount In-Kind or Cash Funds: \$15891.63