



# Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee

## Project Proposal Application Form

City of Ann Arbor Public Services  
4251 Stone School Road, Ann Arbor MI 48108  
734.794.6356

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### PROJECT PROPOSAL

In 1964, Elizabeth R. Dean bequeathed \$2 million to the City of Ann Arbor for the income to be used *“to be held in trust in perpetuity, to repair, maintain and replace trees on city property.”* The trust is managed by the Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee which accepts, reviews, and considers proposals for special tree planting and maintenance projects to enhance Ann Arbor’s urban and community forest as one of the allocations of the income.

### PROJECT EVALUATION & SELECTION CRITERIA

Projects must provide for open and equal access to all citizens, thereby deriving benefits to the entire community. The Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee has identified the following priority outcomes and areas/locations where it would like to focus funding towards.

#### Outcomes

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- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| • Neighborhood Enhancement with Shade, Privacy, and Noise Reduction | • Building Environmental Stewardship |
| • Beautification  | • Maintain and Enhance Biodiversity  |

#### Locations

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- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • Neighborhood streets                               | • Public Housing Sites   |
| • Proposals submitted by neighborhood organizations. | • Community Centers / Libraries  |
| • Neighborhood parks                                 | • Major Streets, particularly those that have had significant loss of trees. |

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### PROJECT PROPOSAL INFORMATION

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Please answer the following questions as concisely as possible (attach a separate sheet if necessary). If your proposal is considered for funding, you may be asked to attend a Dean Fund Committee meeting to further explain your project.

- 1. Describe the project.** Please include the nearest cross streets or other means to identify the specific location.

See enclosed sheet.

2. How does the project meet one or more of the Outcomes listed in the application form?

See enclosed sheet.

3. Have you sought other sources or matching of funding? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If YES, what other sources: \_\_\_\_\_

4. How many trees to be:

Planted	57 open spaces but open to receive a smaller number
Pruned	0
Removed	0
Stumps Ground	0
Other	

5. If approved for funding, how will you or your group support this project?

☐ Monetary Contribution ☒ Maintenance/Tree Care ☐ Project Promotion

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you talked over your project with members of the community, City staff or City Council?

☒ YES ☐ NO

If YES, with whom and how? \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: See enclosed sheet.	Phone Number:
Organization (if applicable):	Email Address:
Are you interested in serving on the Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	

Mail completed applications to:

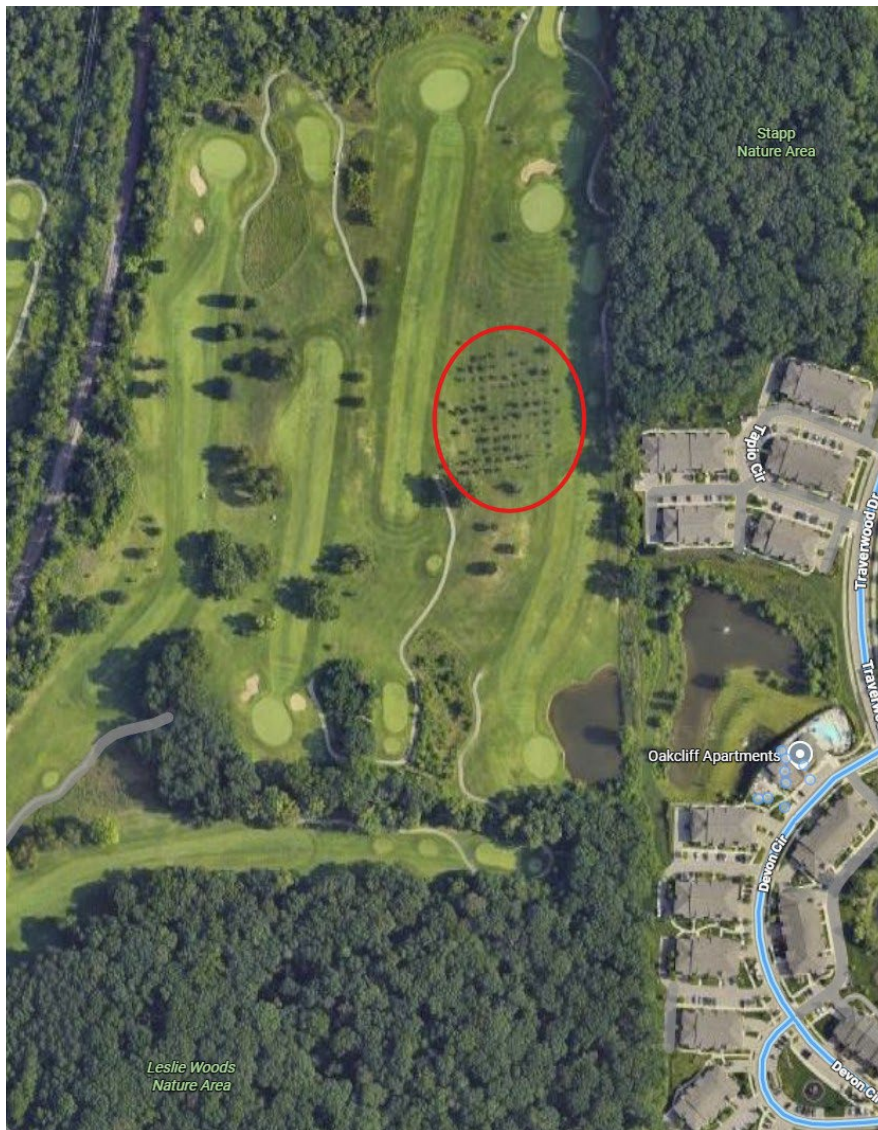
Wheeler Service Center  
Attn: EDFC/Nicholas Jacob  
4251 Stone School Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Email completed applications to:

[njacob@a2gov.org](mailto:njacob@a2gov.org)

**1. Describe the project: Please include the nearest cross streets or other means to identify the specific location.**

This tree planting project we are requesting is going to be held at Leslie Park golf course. The golf course is located at 2150 Traver Rd. in Ann Arbor and is a renowned municipal golf course. The project will take place at the historic orchard, an area that provides recreation to the surrounding communities. With the years, some trees were lost, and out of the 144 spaces in the orchard, 57 are currently empty. The goal of this project is to replant the lost trees to continue to preserve this historic orchard. The project site is located near the Stapp Nature area and the Leslie Woods Nature Area, two additional preserved green spaces in the area. Over 80% of the trees are pear trees with apple and cherry trees completing the area.



**2. How does the project meet one or more of the outcomes listed in the application form?**

Leslie Park golf course recently retained its designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf courses, and Audubon International program. Funding for tree replacement in the historic orchard is a strategic investment that strengthens the course's commitment to environmental stewardship. This project aligns directly with the program's core focus on wildlife and habitat management and provides an opportunity to fulfill the outreach and education component of the Audubon certification. By replacing the 57 missing trees, LPGC will enhance the local ecosystem by increasing the urban tree canopy, supporting pollinator populations, and reinforcing its role as a key community green space, benefiting not only golfers but also the neighboring residents who enjoy the orchard.

This tree planting initiative is a visible action that demonstrates the City of Ann Arbor's dedication to sustainable practices, particularly in light of its A2ZERO climate goals. It also builds on past conservation successes at LPGC, such as the monarch habitat program and streambank stabilization project, reinforcing the value of public funds spent on environmental improvements. By addressing the need for tree replacement in a cherished community space, the project supports LPGC's mission to protect natural resources while enhancing the quality of a public asset for current and future generations.

While the golf course has 57 open spaces for trees, funding for a smaller number of trees would be beneficial and a step closer towards their goal.

**6. Have you talked over your project with members of the community, City staff or City Council?**

Yes. The plan was discussed with some council members during a tour to the golf course back in 2024. The golf course plan has also been discussed with Audubon International officials during their visit to the course, and community members that have reached out to the golf course in recent years. Parks and Recreation Manager, Josh Landefeld, is supportive of the plan.

Main contact person:

Main: Doug Kelly, Director of Golf, City of Ann Arbor Golf courses.

[dkelly@a2gov.org](mailto:dkelly@a2gov.org) (734) 794-6245

Secondary contact person:

Victor Morales-Rios, Parks and Rec Deputy Manager, City of Ann Arbor

[Vmoraless-rios@a2gov.org](mailto:Vmoraless-rios@a2gov.org) (734) 794-6230 Ext 43362