

FY28 CLIF Process Public Information Session

General FY28 CLIF Funding Request
NOFO Publication Date: June 1, 2026



What is CLIF?

Casino Local Impact Fund

- Supports projects and programs in the **South Baltimore Gateway District**.
- Funds come from slot machine revenue
- Funds are intended to improve community development, economic growth, infrastructure, services, and quality of life.
- Projects should provide a **clear public benefit** to District residents, workers, students, businesses, neighborhoods, or community groups.

New! FY28 CLIF Process

- The FY28 CLIF funding requests guidelines are available in the FY28 NOFO.
- Eligible applicants will now use this process to request support for eligible projects & programs.
- CLIF aligns funding support with the goals of the South Baltimore Gateway Master Plan.

CLIF and SBGP

How the funding fits together

Casino Local Impact Fund

- City-administered local impact funds.
- This information session is for City CLIF funding requests.
- The City proposes a budget in coordination with the Local Development Council
- Final awards move through the City budget and approval process.

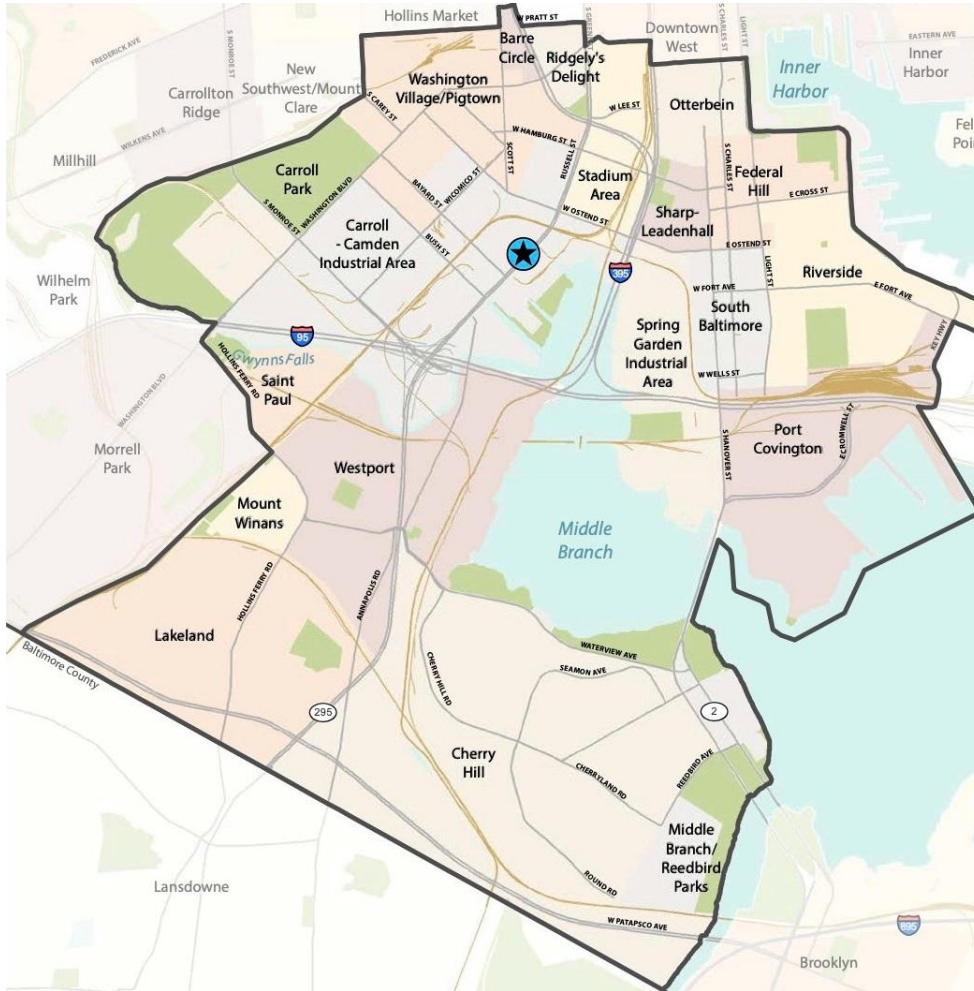
South Baltimore Gateway Partnership

- Receives an equal share of local impact funds.
- SBGP runs its own programs, grants, and projects.
- Both CLIF and SBGP are guided by the South Baltimore Gateway Master Plan.

**This funding opportunity is for
CLIF FY28 Funding, not SBGP grant programs.**

South Baltimore Gateway District

Requests must be located in, or clearly and directly benefit, the District



Eligible neighborhoods

- Baltimore Peninsula
- Barre Circle
- Carroll-Camden IA
- Federal Hill
- Lakeland
- Mount Winans
- Otterbein
- Pigtown / Washington Village
- Ridgely's Delight
- Riverside
- Sharp-Leadenhall
- South Baltimore
- Spring Garden IA
- Stadium Area
- St. Paul
- Westport

This [interactive map](#) is available to search your prospective project address for eligibility.

FY28 CLIF Funding Process at a Glance

Key dates for FY28 CLIF funding requests

Milestone	Date
NOFO Published	June 1, 2026
Funding Request Form Opens	July 1, 2026
Submission Deadline	July 31, 2026, at 11:59 PM
Review & Budget Process	Fall 2026 – Spring 2027
Funds Available, if approved	July 1, 2027

Important reminders

- Requests must be submitted through the CLIF application portal.
- Submission does not guarantee funding.
- Final awards depend on review, public input, budget approval, and City authorization.
- Criteria may change. This will be clearly communicated through the CLIF website and e-mails to those on the CLIF Newsletter

What can be submitted through the funding request form?

Organizations may request support for eligible public-benefit work

Projects and programs

Capital improvements

Cultural spaces

Grant administration

Public services

Planning efforts

Organizational support

Homeowner or homebuyer assistance
programs

Important: individuals do not apply directly through this NOFO. If CLIF funds a direct-assistance program, residents apply through that program's process. CLIF will publish program applications at baltimorecity.gov/planning/clif/clif-grant-opportunities when they are open to the public.

Who Can Submit a Funding Request?

Eligible requesters and basic lead-applicant rules

Eligible requesters:

- Nonprofit organizations with tax-exempt status
- Mission-based and neighborhood organizations working through a fiscal sponsor as their Lead Requester
- Faith-based organizations proposing nonreligious public-benefit projects
- Public schools proposing community-based projects or programs
- Baltimore City agencies or other public agencies serving the District

Lead Requester requirements:

- Lead requesters should be tax-exempt organizations, public agencies, or organizations using an eligible fiscal sponsor.
- For-profit entities may participate as partners, vendors, or contractors, but cannot be the lead requester.
- Requests must provide direct benefit to the South Baltimore Gateway District.

Who Cannot Apply Directly?

CLIF funding request form is not a direct-assistance application for individual residents

Not eligible to apply directly

- Individual residents
- Homeowners seeking direct assistance
- Homebuyers seeking direct assistance

How direct assistance works

- CLIF may fund an organization, agency, or partner to administer assistance.
- Residents would apply through that approved program.
- The program administrator would set the application steps and eligibility rules.

Eligible Uses of Funds

Requests should align with one or more CLIF goals. Examples below-



Transportation Connectivity

- Complete Streets Planning & Projects
- FY27 Greenway trail segments
- Warner-Stockholm Complete Streets



Environmental Sustainability

- Clean Corps
- Marine Debris Prevention & Removal
- Park improvements: Solo Gibbs, Florence Cummins, Carroll Park



Safety

- Digital Harbor + Harbor Hospital violence intervention
- CitiWatch Cameras
- DHCD Anti-Dumping Cameras



Community Development & Revitalization

- Homeowner repairs, homebuying,
- Community Enhancement: brick sidewalks, pocket parks, tree trimming
- Cultural Spaces Support Grants



Economic Growth

- Employment Connection Center
- Individual Training Accounts + Lyft rides to training
- YouthWorks Summer Employment



Education

- Summer Head Start
- St. Veronica's Summer Academy
- Environmental Education Programming



Health & Wellness

- Harbor Hospital Produce Rx
- Homelessness Strategies
- Food Access Initiatives



Quality of Life

- Arts & Culture Grants and Coordination
- Middle Branch Fitness & Wellness Center



Community Infrastructure

- Fiberoptic Infrastructure
- Community Broadband
- Public Broadband Maintenance

Funding Restrictions and Ineligible Uses

Some costs are not eligible or need additional review

Ineligible for funding

- Projects without District benefit
- Religious worship, instruction, or proselytizing
- Partisan political or campaign activity
- Costs already fully paid by another source
- Costs incurred before an agreement is executed, unless written allowance is provided

Requires additional details:

- Food or refreshments
- Entertainment or fundraising events
- Alcohol, lobbying, fines, penalties, or legal settlements
- Private benefit without clear public benefit

Examples: Community Development

Recent CLIF examples that support housing, neighborhood groups, and community-led work

Community Development Fund

- Homeowner repairs and homebuying assistance
- Middle Neighborhoods Initiative
- District-focused community development investments

Community Enhancement Projects

- Brick sidewalk resurfacing
- Pocket park enhancements
- Tree trimming and neighborhood improvements

Community Partner Support

- Support for CDCs, Main Streets, and community-led organizations
- Capacity-building for organizations serving the District
- Grant planning up to \$50,000

Housing Code Enforcement

- Vacancy and blight response
- Additional inspection capacity
- Legal support for enforcement and receivership

Examples: Cultural Spaces and Placemaking

Projects that create or strengthen public-facing community spaces

Cultural Spaces Support Grants

- Competitive grant program for nonprofit and community organizations
- Small-to-medium cultural and artistic fixtures
- Administered through a nonprofit partner

Community arts and events

- Cherry Hill Arts & Music Festival
- Arts and culture grants and coordination
- Public-facing community activation and placemaking

Strong placemaking requests should explain the public benefit, community support, and maintenance plan.

Examples: Youth, Education, and Workforce Programs

CLIF has funded programs serving students, families, and jobseekers

Youth & education

- Summer Head Start
- St. Veronica's Summer Academy
- Educational Partnerships and tutoring

Workforce

- Employment Connection Center
- Individual Training Accounts
- Lyft rides to training opportunities

Youth employment

- YouthWorks Summer Employment
- Public and nonprofit worksites
- Career-building experience for young people

Examples: Health, Wellness, Clean, and Green Projects

Community health, food access, and environmental investments

Health & wellness

- Harbor Hospital Produce Rx
- Homelessness Strategies
- Food Access Initiatives

Clean & green

- Clean Corps
- Enhanced Solid Waste Services
- Marine Debris Prevention & Removal

Parks & public spaces

- Solo Gibbs Park
- Florence Cummins Park
- Lakeland Park Soccer Field

What Reviewers Will Look For

Strong applications tell a clear story

Alignment with CLIF Goals

Community Impact

Feasibility & Readiness

Organizational Capacity

Budget & Funding Plan

Equity Considerations

Applications should identify:

Need → Proposed Solution → Community Benefit → Measurable Results

Equity in the Funding Request

Use plain language to explain who benefits and how

Structural equity

- Does the project address deeper barriers or long-term disparities?

Procedural equity

- Are affected residents and stakeholders included in planning?

Distributional equity

- Who receives the benefits, resources, or services?

Transgenerational equity

- Does the project create benefits that last for future residents?

What the Funding Request Form Will Ask For

Prepare clear, complete information before the portal opens

**Requester and fiscal sponsor
information**

**Amount requested and total project
cost**

Plain-language project summary

**Community need, public benefit, and
community input**

**Project name, address, neighborhoods,
and direct District benefit**

Project type and CLIF goal alignment

**Scope, timeline, partners, and
contractors**

**Line-item budget, leveraged funds,
performance measures, and
attachments**

Required Documents Checklist

Documents to prepare for submission

Required at submission

- Scope of work, budget, and timeline; location or direct District benefit; CLIF goal alignment
- Performance measures and reporting plan; current and prior fiscal year budgets
- Board list and tax-exempt proof or fiscal sponsor agreement

Submit if applicable

- Good Standing certificate; letters of support or community input
- Site address, map, photos, site control, partners, contractors, permits, approvals, procurement, matching funds
- Prior CLIF reporting status

Budget and Conflict-of-Interest Requirements

Be specific about who gets receives funding and their role

Budget clarity

- Use a line-item budget.
- Show exact dollar amounts.
- Identify all payments to for-profit entities.
- Explain matches, leveraged funds, and other funding sources.

Disclosure requirements

- Disclose relationships between the requester, partners, contractors, and entities receiving funds.
- Make the funding flow easy to understand.

Reporting and Payment Basics

Awardees must document progress, spending, and outcomes

Quarterly reporting

- Q1 due Oct. 15
- Q2 due Jan. 15
- Q3 due Apr. 15
- Q4 due Jul. 15

What to submit

- Progress update
- Spending update
- Performance measures
- Invoice if requesting payment
- Final/year-end update as needed

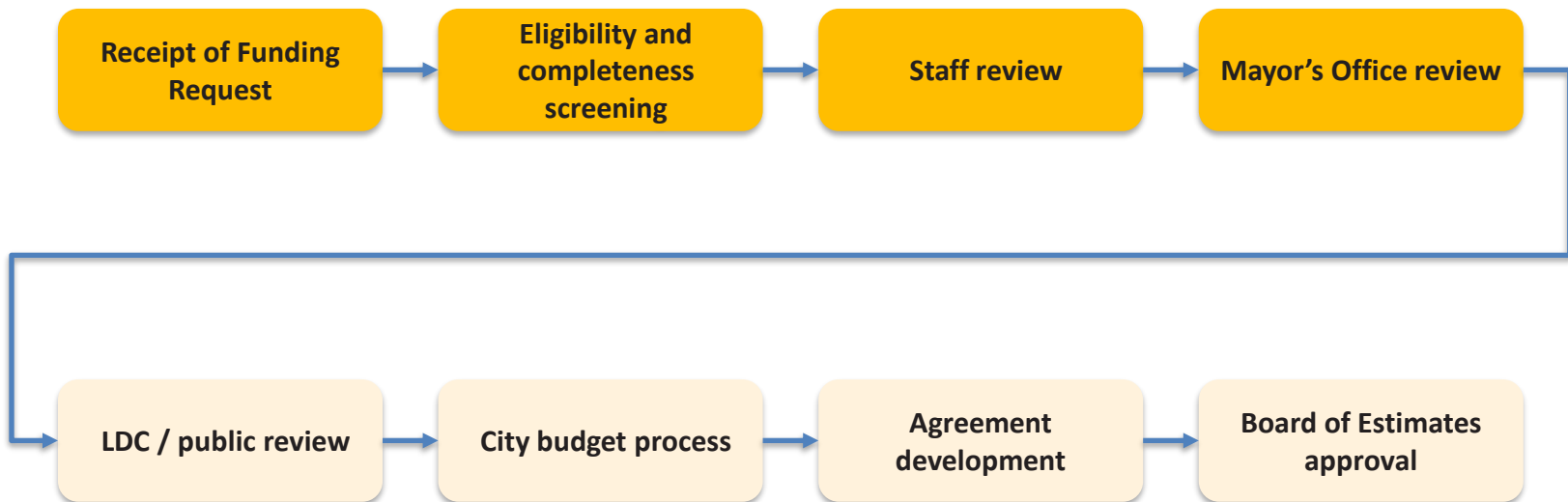
Payments

- Generally reimbursement-based
- Invoices and reports required before payment
- Final payment may be held until final reporting is complete

Reporting requirements will be included in the Grant Agreement.
Reporting will focus on connecting spending to progress, outcomes, and approved scope.

What Happens After Submission?

Condensed review and approval path



CLIF may fund all, part, or none of a request; final awards depend on available funding and required approvals.

A Request Is Not a Guarantee

Funding recommendations are subject to review and approval

Final awards depend on-

- Review results and project readiness
- Available FY28 CLIF funding
- Public input and LDC advisory input
- Mayor and City Council budget approval and final City authorization
- Executed Grant Agreement or similar, approved by DOP leadership, City internal audit process, and Board of Estimates (if required)

Full FY28 NOFO Timeline and Next Steps

Key dates from publication through funding availability

Pre-submission

June 1 NOFO published / preview begins

June 10 Public information sessions

June 23 Public information sessions

July 1 Funding request form opens

July 8 Technical assistance open houses

July 23 Technical assistance open houses

July 31 Submission deadline 11:59 PM

Post-submission

Aug. 2026 Staff review

Sept. 2026 Mayor's Office review

Oct. 2026 Proposed Spending Plan published
LDC review begins

Nov. 2026 Agency and grantee Q&A

Dec. 2026 LDC advisory recommendations

Jan.–May 2027 Budget integration and approval

July 1, 2027 FY28 funds available, if approved

Questions and Contact Information

Use the CLIF website and technical assistance sessions for updates



Contact and links

- Questions: CLIF@BaltimoreCity.gov
- Funding request portal: cityofbaltimoreplanning.submittable.com/submit
- More information: baltimorecity.gov/planning/CLIF
- Technical assistance and meeting updates will be posted on the CLIF website.

Thank you!