



THE REAL ESTATE COUNCIL
FOUNDATION

Dallas Catalyst Project FAQs

What is the Dallas Catalyst Project?

A new \$1 million grant that The Real Estate Council (TREC) Foundation is rolling out right now. This effort is designed to build pathways between nonprofits to *Ignite Positive Community Change* and maximize TREC Foundation's impact.

Why did TREC Foundation introduce this new initiative?

The Dallas Catalyst Project is the result of a special task force that came together to enhance TREC Foundation following a study by Deloitte completed earlier this year. With this new approach, our goal is to increase our community impact by encouraging collaboration and focusing resources.

Is Dallas Catalyst Project replacing the other TREC Foundation grants?

Yes. TREC Foundation will focus all grant funding on the Dallas Catalyst Project recipient(s). We will, of course, continue to honor existing funding commitments.

What types of programs or initiatives are eligible for the Dallas Catalyst Project?

We are seeking proposals that address one or more of TREC Foundation's focus areas: housing, jobs, education and the environment. Proposals must include collaboration between nonprofits that seek to solve a **specific problem** in a defined **geographic area** with a real estate-related project(s) that have specific, **measurable outcomes**.

What is different about the Dallas Catalyst Project as compared to TREC Foundation grant selection over the last few years?

- **Focused Funding:** Rather than funding projects all over the city, TREC Foundation will identify and select, based on the proposals received, a high-impact community-driven project or projects in one area of the city.
- **Defined Location:** The selected project must address a significant challenge within the geographic boundaries of the City of Dallas.

- **More Collaboration:** We're looking for community-driven projects presented by a group of organizations, that together, provide a comprehensive solution to a critical community challenge.
- **More Money:** The successful project will receive financial support of up to \$1 million.
- **More Time:** The funding will be provided over three years.

Does “collaboration” mean that a new entity must be formed?

No. You do NOT have to create a new organization to collaborate with other organizations. Collaborative partners all will participate in achieving the goals of the project(s) and be accountable for grant funds either directly or through a lead organization or collaborative.

Who will determine what the grant period is?

The applicant(s) will provide the necessary timeline to accomplish the goals. TREC is willing to provide the funding over a period of three years.

Will TREC Foundation still provide grants to several different nonprofit organizations?

We hope so. With the Dallas Catalyst Project, we see an opportunity for nonprofits and community groups to collaborate to *Ignite Positive Community Change*. We are looking for solutions to significant community challenges, and we believe that asking organizations to work together with a shared purpose will be a great way to maximize our impact.

Does the Dallas Catalyst Project include opportunities for TREC members to volunteer?

Yes. TREC members will provide volunteer and professional services support with the Dallas Catalyst Project.

Will TREC members still provide voluntary Professional Services outside of Dallas Catalyst Project?

Yes. TREC has a history of providing TREC volunteers who donate their time and expertise to make the real estate visions of local nonprofits a reality. TREC Foundation's Professional Services program will continue with no changes.

What types of projects are most likely to receive the Dallas Catalyst Project funding?

We are looking for a project(s) that addresses a significant challenge. Applicants must have a solid plan, along with the skills and resources needed for success. We also want to select projects that will make a lasting and measurable difference in a specific area of Dallas.

Example: Five organizations working in high school feeder pattern want to improve specific educational outcomes. This may require real estate-related projects that provide space for after school programs, improve housing, space for residents to obtain healthy food, and space for a pediatric health clinic.

Example: One organization working in a high-poverty neighborhood wants to pool resources with other neighborhood organizations to create a local service center for residents.

What is the difference between the Request for Proposal (RFP) and the full application?

The RFP is merely to provide an outline of the proposal. The full application will require much more detailed information regarding things like the structure of the collaboration, the measurement of outcomes and the financial capacity of the applicant(s).

Who can apply?

This is not an "invitation only" RFP. Any nonprofit that has a proposal as outlined in the RFP can apply.

How can an organization apply?

Complete the RFP online at <http://recouncil.com/foundation/apply/>.

What is the deadline to complete the RFP?

5 p.m. on June 15, 2017.

When will the final decision be made?

November 2017, with announcements made in December 2017.

When will funding begin to be available?

Beginning in 2018

Who will make the final decision?

TREC members will vote to choose the final recipient(s).

Still have questions?

If you don't see an answer to your question, please feel free to reach out to **Kelcey Hamilton, Community Engagement Manager**, at **khamilton@recouncil.com**.

We also will hold an information session at **1:30 p.m.** on **April 24, 2017**, at TREC's offices at 3100 McKinnon St., Suite 1150.