

**Neighborhood Council Funding Program**  
**APPLICATION for Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG)**



This form is to be completed by the applicant seeking the Neighborhood Purposes Grant and submitted to the Neighborhood Council from whom the grant is being sought. All applications for grants must be reviewed and approved in a public meeting. Upon approval of the application the Neighborhood Council (NC) shall submit the application along with all required documentation to the Office of the City Clerk, NC Funding Program.

Name of NC from which you are seeking this grant: Grater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council

**SECTION I - APPLICANT INFORMATION**

1a) Buried Under the Blue 84-1740798 California July 19, 2019  
Organization Name Federal I.D. # (EIN#) State of Incorporation Date of 501(c)(3) Status (if applicable)

1b) 755 W 30th St. Apt #4 San Pedro CA 90731  
Organization Mailing Address City State Zip Code

1c) \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Address (if different) City State Zip Code

1d) **PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
Melissa Arechiga 310-514-7252 BuriedUnderTheBlue  
Name Phone Email @gmail.com

2) **Type of Organization- Please select one:**  
 Public School (not to include private schools) Attach Signed letter on School Letterhead or  501(c)(3) Non-Profit (other than religious institutions) Attach IRS Determination Letter

3) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name / Address of Affiliated Organization (if applicable) City State Zip Code

**SECTION II - PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

4) Please describe the purpose and intent of the grant.  
Please see separate attached purpose of the grant sheet.

5) How will this grant be used to primarily support or serve a public purpose and benefit the public at-large. (Grants cannot be used as rewards or prizes for individuals)  
Please see separate attached purpose of the grant sheet.



**SECTION III - PROJECT BUDGET OUTLINE**

You may also provide the Budget Outline on a separate sheet if necessary or requested.

6a) Personnel Related Expenses	Requested of NC	Total Projected Cost
Please see separate attached budget sheet.	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

6b) Non-Personnel Related Expenses	Requested of NC	Total Projected Cost
Please see separate attached budget sheet.	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

7) Have you (applicant) applied to any other Neighborhood Councils requesting funds for this project?  
 No  Yes If Yes, please list names of NCs: \_\_\_\_\_

8) Is the implementation of this specific program or purpose described in Question 4 contingent on any other factors or sources or funding? (Including NPG applications to other NCs)  No  Yes If Yes, please describe:

Source of Funding	Amount	Total Projected Cost
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

9) What is the TOTAL amount of the grant funding requested with this application: \$ 5000.00

10a) Start date: 05/31/24 10b) Date Funds Required: 05/17/24 10c) Expected Completion Date: 06/30/24  
 (After completion of the project, the applicant should submit a Project Completion Report to the Neighborhood Council)

**SECTION IV - POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

11a) Do you (applicant) have a current or former relationship with a Board Member of the NC?  
 No  Yes If Yes, please describe below:

Name of NC Board Member	Relationship to Applicant

11b) If yes, did you request that the board member consult the Office of the City Attorney before filing this application?  
 Yes  No \*(Please note that if a Board Member of the NC has a conflict of interest and completes this form, or participates in the discussion and voting of this NPG, the NC Funding Program will deny the payment of this grant in its entirety.)

**SECTION V - DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE**

I hereby affirm that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided herein and communicated otherwise is truly and accurately stated. I further affirm that I have read the documents "What is a Public Benefit," and "Conflicts of Interest" of this application and affirm that the proposed project(s) and/or program(s) fall within the criteria of a public benefit project/program and that no conflict of interest exist that would prevent the awarding of the Neighborhood Purposes Grant. I affirm that I am not a current Board Member of the Neighborhood Council to whom I am submitting this application. I further affirm that if the grant received is not used in accordance with the terms of the application stated here, said funds shall be returned immediately to the Neighborhood Council.

12a) Executive Director of Non-Profit Corporation or School Principal - REQUIRED\*  
MEUSSA ARECHIGA President [Signature] 05-06-24  
 PRINT Name Title Signature Date

12b) Secretary of Non-profit Corporation or Assistant School Principal - REQUIRED\*  
JEANNIE T. ARECHIGA Secretary [Signature] 05-06-24  
 PRINT Name Title Signature Date

\* If a current Board Member holds the position of Executive Director or Secretary, please contact the NC Funding Program at (213) 978-1058 or [clerk.ncfunding@lacity.org](mailto:clerk.ncfunding@lacity.org) for instructions on completing this form



INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
P. O. BOX 2508  
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: **JUL 19 2019**

BURIED UNDER THE BLUE  
755 W 30TH STREET  
SAN PEDRO, CA 90731-0000

Employer Identification Number:  
84-1740798  
DLN:  
26053593001929  
Contact Person:  
CUSTOMER SERVICE ID# 31954  
Contact Telephone Number:  
(877) 829-5500  
Accounting Period Ending:  
December 31  
Public Charity Status:  
509(a) (2)  
Form 990/990-EZ/990-N Required:  
Yes  
Effective Date of Exemption:  
December 17, 2017  
Contribution Deductibility:  
Yes  
Addendum Applies:  
No

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to [www.irs.gov/charities](http://www.irs.gov/charities). Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Letter 947

**Applicant Organization:** Buried Under the Blue

**Project Title:** Community Science Research to Recover and Conservation of the Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) Natural Critical Habitat.

(Bridging Habitats: Uniting Community and Conservation for the Least Bell's Vireo)

**Budget Description:** Monitoring and Surveying equipment for critical habitat conservation and restoration and outreach materials for educational community events.

**To:** The Greater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council (GCPNC)

**History:**

The Project will create valuable updated and fresh database on the Federally and State listed (Endangered) California Least Bell's Vireo "LBVI" (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) species and its natural critical habitat. The species was listed as Endangered in the 1980 by the CA Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), then in 1986 by the US Fish and Wildlife Services. At that time only less than 30 nesting pairs existed statewide bringing the species almost to the extinction. Since then, the species have recovered extremely slowly, mainly due to the degradation and invasion of their riparian habitat. Studies done in 1996 – 2000 showed that less than 240 nesting pairs were observed in some of the protected areas, being this the most ever recorded since 1980. Most recent studies done in 2020 claim that over 1000 species were observed in some of the protected areas, and other not protected riparian habitat areas.

Once common in the North East LA area including the Los Angeles River and its tributaries, the LBVI were no longer able to nest – raise offspring due to degradation and invasion of their critical habitat by housing, industrial and recreational development, forcing changes on the species natural behavior impacting their survival and reproductive ability, limiting efforts for the recovery of the species. There are no current or recent plans implemented in the area (NELA) to help with the recover and conservation of the Least Bell's Vireo, which makes any type of development in this area a huge threat to the recover-conservation of the species. This project will be the first ever to be implemented in the NELA area and surroundings.

**Purpose and Intent of the Grant:**

Funding from the NPG will support to create a community science research project to survey, study, document and disseminate the existence of the endangered Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) in the areas within the boundaries of the Greater Cypress Park NC for the purpose of protecting their habitats and identify the devastating effects from the cumulative impact produced by the degradation and invasion of natural critical habitat by housing, industrial and recreational development projects in environmentally sensitive critical habitat areas that are driving the species to the brink of extinction, joining Federal and State efforts to the recover-conservation of the Species.

- **Facilitate the recovery** and conservation of the Least Bell's Vireo (LBVI), an endangered bird species native to California, particularly in the Northeast Los Angeles (NELA) area.
- **Research and Data Collection:** Initiating studies on the LBVI's migratory patterns, nesting, and offspring in the NELA area to update and maintain a comprehensive database for conservation strategies. Create a comprehensive community science research initiative to garner support from Federal and State representatives in conserving the LBVI and its natural critical habitat.
- **Community Engagement and Education:** Organizing workshops, events, and

activities to foster awareness in a fun and inclusive way through art, outdoor expeditions, and other activities for children and adults such as birdwatching and surveying to encourage and promote learning about and contributing to the recovery and conservation of the Least Bell's Vireo and its habitat.

- Encourage and promote inclusivity and participation among Disadvantaged and Severely Disadvantaged Indigenous and People of Color (IPOC) communities and the general public.
- **Habitat Conservation:** Collaborating with local and federal agencies and Indigenous tribes to secure and protect extensive suitable riparian habitats to ensure the species and natural critical habitat recovery, conservation and maintenance.
- **Policy Advocacy:** Working towards the development and implementation of policies to mitigate and avoid the impacts of green-gentrification impacting the disadvantaged and severely-disadvantaged Indigenous and people of color (DSD-IPOC) living nearby, .and support the preservation of natural habitats and community heritage.
- **Sustainability and Resource Allocation:** Coordinating with federal, state and city agencies to direct resources towards the creation of biological reserves and wildlife refuges, promoting environmental sustainability and community well-being.

**Applicant Organization:** Buried Under the Blue

**Project Title:** Community Science Research to Recover and Conservation of the Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) Natural Critical Habitat.

(Bridging Habitats: Uniting Community and Conservation for the Least Bell's Vireo)

**Budget Description:** Monitoring and Surveying equipment for critical habitat conservation and restoration and outreach materials for educational community events.

**To:** The Greater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council (GCPNC)

**Budget Item:**

**Project title:** Bridging Habitats: Uniting Community and Conservation for the Least Bell's Vireo

**Description:** Monitoring and surveying equipment for critical habitat restoration and recovery and outreach material for educational community events.

**Applicant Organization: Buried Under the Blue**

General Operating and Community Outreach Expenses		Description	Total
3	Catering \$400/event	(for 3 events within GCPNC boundaries)	\$1,200.00
2	motion-activated/night-vision & waterproof cameras	(for wildlife surveillance)	\$400.00
1	Canon DSLR camera	(for wildlife surveillance/events)	\$1400.00
4	SD memory cards	(for all cameras)	\$200.00
2	CF cards 64GB each		\$200.00
4	pack AA rechargeable batteries & charger	(for motion-activated cameras)	\$200.00
1000	Flyers	(for event outreach)	\$150.00
3	Wildlife photograph posters	(for event outreach)	\$150.00
500	Brochures	(for 500 bird guides)	\$550.00
100	Handouts	With LBVI/wildlife info	\$350.00
250	(LBVI/wildlife stickers)	(3 different stickers styles)	\$200.00
-		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5000.00</b>