

After I've submitted my application, what happens next?

The Local Option Tax Administrator will screen the applications received to ensure they comply with the guidelines of City Code. The remaining applications will be reviewed by the Local Option Tax (LOT) Commission. The LOT Commission will hear presentations at a special meeting usually held in mid-May. This meeting is open to the public. The presentations are brief, with only five minutes allowed for each request. The commission members will have reviewed the applications in advance, so use this opportunity to explain your project with details beyond what is shown on the application. The LOT Commission may ask some questions about the general finances of your organization.

Who decides the funds to be awarded?

After all requests are heard, the LOT Commission will deliberate and determine how much will be awarded and the priority for receiving funds in the coming fiscal year. The Commission will be given a forecasted amount of funds to award, and beyond that the remaining requests will follow a "contingency" schedule as surplus funds allow. The results are merely a recommendation that will be submitted to City Council. The Council will review the LOT Commission's draft proposal and ultimately determine the final amounts and funding priorities. The applicants will be notified of their award and estimated timeframe of receipt once this approval is finalized.

If my application is accepted when will I receive funds?

Local Option Taxes for FY20 will begin to be collected on October 1, 2019 and disbursements should start within a few months, after the balance has grown. The disbursements will continue until all funds collected through September 30, 2020 are awarded, following the priority order of the distribution list.

I've received my funds. What do I need to do next?

Within a year of receiving funds, the recipient of the LOT award will need to file a completion report with the City Clerk's office, documenting how the funds were used and attaching all receipts from the project.