

Albany County and City of Laramie Community Partner Organization Funding Request Application FY2027

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE 5:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11TH 2026 AND WILL ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF ALL PREVIOUS FINAL REPORTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

The City of Laramie and Albany County provide funding to local community partner organizations through their annual budget making processes. Organizations receiving these funds do not operate within the formal structure of city or county governments but may utilize support from these governments to achieve their missions or fund special projects. Community partner organizations generally have a strong presence within the community and provide vital services, products, or activities that serve to improve the community in a variety of ways. Only non-profit/not-for-profit entities are eligible to apply for funding. For-profit entities are ineligible.

Historically, organizations requesting funding fall within the following three categories:

Recreational/Arts and Culture: These organizations exist to promote, sustain, and develop recreational, cultural, and leisure activities within the community. These organizations may also sponsor educational and community events and celebrations designed to encourage a diverse cultural and active lifestyle while promoting a strong sense of community.

Social Services: The primary objective of these organizations is to support or engage in activities designed to enhance the wellbeing of individuals and families within the community. These organizations provide a variety of services that focus on basic human needs, access to programs and services designed to maintain human dignity and health, and the overall welfare of citizens.

Civic Organizations/Quasi-Governmental: These organizations have been established within our community to A) work for the overall improvement, advancement, and economic health through civic involvement, economic development initiatives, and fostering community spirit; or B) provide services, programs and other opportunities for the betterment of the community through the organization of Joint Powers Boards or other Quasi-Governmental Organizations that work collaboratively with the City of Laramie and/or Albany County on shared goals, concerns, and interests.

This Community Partner Funding is available from funds collected via Albany County's 5th Penny Tax and historically has funded approximately \$250,000 in County requests and \$235,000 in City requests. In their sole discretion, the City and County each reserve the right to waive any informality in any application and/or reject any application.

Organizations can submit a request to both the City and County. If an organization is awarded funding, the organization is solely responsible for its costs including, but not limited to, operations, personnel, taxes,

maintenance, and insurance coverage against public liability and property damage.

Priority of requests is as follows:

- Requests that improve the community.
- Requests that are not more than 20% of organization's general operating budget and do not exceed \$20,000 each from City or County.
- Requests to either City or County that are less than 20% of organization's general operating budget but in excess of \$20,000 are considered on a case by case basis and may affect the priority of the organization's request.
- Demonstration of multiple revenue sources for organization.
- The number of people served by organization.
- Clear identification of those who benefit from the organization's work.
- Demonstration of the organization's partnership with other organizations in the community.
- Requests that do not duplicate efforts already existing in the community.

For-profit entities are not eligible to apply. Only non-profit/not-for-profit entities are eligible to apply for funding.

Presentation dates are as follows:

City-Only and Joint City/County Applicants:

March 24th, 2026 beginning at 5:30pm.

City Hall-Council Chambers, 406 Iverson Ave.

County-Only Applications:

April 7th, 2026 beginning at 9:30 am

County Courthouse, County Commissioners Room, Room 105.

*****Send presentation materials to Nancy Oakland-Potter noaklandpotter@cityoflaramie.org by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13th*****

Schedule for Decision Making Process and Availability of Funds:

City: Laramie City Council intends to make its preliminary funding decisions in early to mid-April 2026 and final funding decisions will be announced upon adoption of the City's FY2026/2027 Budget in June 2026. The City's award payments to successful organizations will be made on or around August 1, 2026, pending receipt of the fully executed agreement.

County: The Albany County Commissioners make their final funding decisions upon the adoption of the County's FY2026/2027 Budget in June 2026. Agreements will be sent to successful organizations in July 2026. Pending the County's receipt of the fully executed Agreement, the County's award payments to successful organizations will only be made on a reimbursement basis.

All information on this form and all requested documentation must be complete and submitted before the application will be considered. Applications that are incomplete or are missing required materials may be rejected. If there are additional questions from City Council or the Albany County Commissioners after review of the applications Nancy Oakland-Potter or Bailey Quick will reach out to the organization for additional information.

Contact the following for assistance:

City of Laramie: Nancy Oakland-Potter, noaklandpotter@cityoflaramie.org, 307-721-5226

Albany County: Bailey Quick, grants@albanycountywy.gov, 307-721-1803

Email *

skatelaramie@gmail.com

The organization has read, understands, and agrees to the above guidelines? *

Yes

No

Applicant Information

Please provide the following information about your organization:

Organization Name: *

Skate Laramie 501(c)3

Contact Name, Title: *

Josh Kaffer

Mailing Address: *

1157 N 9th St Laramie Wy 82072

Contact Phone: *

3073430660

Contact E-Mail: *

skatelaramie@gmail.com

Type of Organization: *

- Recreation/Arts and Culture
- Social Service
- Civic/Quasi-Governmental
- Non-Profit Agency (501(c)(3))
- Not-for-Profit Agency (501(c)(4) or 501(c)(7))
- Other: _____

Are you a first time applicant for Community Partner Funding? *

- Yes
- No

Requested Amount from the City of Laramie: *

Enter dollar amount only

5000

Requested Amount from Albany County: *

Enter dollar amount only

5000

Will this amount be used to leverage additional funds through grants or other means? *

- Yes
- No

If yes, indicate the dollar amount of additional funds that will be leveraged.

490000

Provide examples of grants the organization has received in the past 2 years. *

(Excluding prior City of Laramie and Albany County Community Partner Funds programs)

Our Fall 2025 North Access Project for the Laramie Skatepark received a grant of \$2000 from the Laramie Beautification Committee, a grant of \$600 from the Albany County Recreation Board and \$5400 in funding from Laramie Parks. In 2024 we received a gift of \$50k to assist in the purchase of the S. Kiowa land we are now working to develop.

List organization board of director(s), indicating officers. *

Josh Kaffer, President.

Blake Mcgee, Vice President.

Ken Hanson, Secretary.

Norman Frost, Treasurer.

Description of request:

Provide a detailed explanation of how the requested funds would be utilized by the organization. *

Include any additional funding sources and amounts received by the organization. Maximum character count is 2,500, including spaces.

In 2024, Skate Laramie purchased land with a bold but achievable vision: constructing a 4000 square foot indoor Skatepark with an additional 1000 square feet dedicated to community gathering space.

This facility will:

- Provided structured after school programming in a safe environment.
- Offer mentorship and positive youth development opportunities.
- Host summer camps, blending skating, art, and creative expression.
- Serve university students and adults seeking recreation, fitness and connection.
- Provide a welcoming, substance free social space during Laramie's long winter months.

This project is not simply a Skatepark. It is a youth development center built around recreation, creativity and community.

Skate Laramie has completed a comprehensive business plan, architectural drawings and feasibility planning to ensure operational sustainability and long-term success.

Because the organization owns the land, it can manage overhead responsibly while maintaining affordable access for the community.

Funding from the city of Laramie and Albany County will be used directly toward the completion of the capital campaign needed to construct the indoor facility. Early governmental investment provides both financial momentum and community validation, demonstrating that local leadership recognizes the importance of year-round recreation space for Albany County and Laramie residents.

As of early March, our feasibility study and silent campaign have secured a \$250,000 matching commitment toward our \$500,000 campaign goal, along with \$16,000 in additional commitments. We have submitted a \$50,000 request to ACRB and are actively pursuing additional major gifts and grant funding.

Our goal is to secure 70% of project funding before launching the public phase of this campaign. Community Partner Support will help close the remaining funding gap and allow Skate Laramie to move forward with construction of this long needed year-round community resource.

Describe the positive effects and benefits the requested funds would provide to the organization and the community, including goals the organization hopes to accomplish. *

Maximum character count is 2,500, including spaces.

Skate parks are among the most accessible forms of recreation available. With only a skateboard or scooter, young people can enter a community that values, perseverance, creativity, resilience, and mutual respect. Skaters learn from one another, develop independence, and build confidence through practice, failure, and persistence.

Each winter, our volunteers shovel the 12,000 ft.² Laramie Skatepark simply to keep the space usable during the brief hours above freezing. As one volunteer, put it, "if you shovel, they will come, but only for a few minutes."

When winter eliminates access, participation drops dramatically. Youth lose a healthy outlet to recreation and social connection, and some drift toward less positive environments. For decades, Laramie's young people have voiced the same need: year-round recreational space that provides structure, belonging, and positive activity during the winter months.

The proposed indoor skatepark will provide a permanent solution.

Skate Laramie's goal is to create a year-round community hub that supports youth development, physical activity, and social connection. The skate community already functions as a powerful, informal support network, particularly for youth who may feel marginalized in traditional athletics or school activities. Mentorship, shared learning, and creative expression, our central to skate culture.

With a permanent indoor facility, Skate Laramie will expand existing programs, offer consistent winter programming, and increase access for youth and families across Albany County.

We envision the space becoming a second home for many young people: a safe, accessible, and welcoming environment, where they can recreate, build friendships, and grow.

Describe your organization’s partnerships with other organizations in the community and how your organization avoids duplication of efforts while carrying out impactful work in your service area. *

Maximum character count is 2,500, including spaces.

Since 2014, Skate Laramie has worked closely with the city of Laramie Parks and Recreation department. The parks division has partnered with us to address infrastructure and management needs at the Laramie Sk8 Park, while recreation has supported our long-standing programming efforts that provide both free and low cost opportunities for youth and families.

We also collaborate with the university of Wyoming skate club, which helps connect university students with the broader community and contributes volunteer leadership for events and programming.

Additional partnerships include Scouting America Troop 137, whose members frequently volunteer at Skatepark events and service projects.

Skate Laramie also values opportunities to collaborate with youth serving organizations such as Cathedral Home and Big Brothers Big Sisters, particularly when programs can provide mentorship and positive recreational outlets for young people who benefit from additional community support.

The proposed indoor facility will strengthen these partnerships and create additional opportunities for collaboration. By providing a year-round recreational space, Skate Laramie will compliment the work of existing youth organizations by offering a unique environment centered on recreation, mentorship, creativity, and community connection.

Is this a new or existing project, or ongoing operations? *

- New Project
- Existing Project
- Ongoing Operations

Is this a one-time request or an ongoing expense? *

- One-time request
- Ongoing expense

Number of individuals your organization serves annually. *

500

Populations served: *

Check all boxes that apply


- Children Ages 0-5
- Children Ages 6-10
- Children Ages 11-18
- Adults Ages 18-25
- Adults Ages 26-40
- Adult Ages 41-64
- Adults Ages 65+
- K-12 School/School District
- Veterans
- Low to Moderate Income
- LGBTQIA+
- Persons with Disabilities
- College/University
- Tribal Organizations
- Other: _____

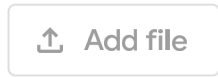
Additional information in support of this application?

Maximum character count is 1,000, including spaces.

Provide your organization's financial statements for the most recent fiscal year. *

File must be saved as a .pdf labeled by the organization requesting funding (ex. LaramieSoupKitchen2025FinancialStatment)

 SkateLaramie20...


 Add file

Provide an itemized budget for this request and include other revenue sources as applicable. *

Budget Template available in the link below.


File must be saved as a .pdf labeled by the organization requesting funding (ex. LaramieSoupKitchenFY27Budget)

 SkateLaramie20...

 Add file

Provide organization's most recent Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N, including all schedules. *

File must be saved as a .pdf labeled by the organization requesting funding (ex. LaramieSoupKitchen2025_990-N)

 SkateLaramie20...

 Add file

FY2025 City Award Information

Please complete the following additional questions if you are applying for City funds. If you are only applying for County funds you may skip this section.

Amount of **City** funds awarded in FY2025?

2000

Has your organization spent all awarded FY2025 **City** Funds?

Yes

No

If organization has not spent all awarded FY2025 **City** funds, note the remaining amount and the date by which you intend to expend those funds.

\$2000 - 06/01/2026

Assurance and Signature

Please review all previous questions to ensure their completeness and accuracy, and make sure all files have been attached.

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that we are responsible for signing an Agreement * with Albany County and/or the City of Laramie if funds are awarded:

Yes

No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that a final report **must** be submitted to the awarding agency as part of this funding: *

Yes

No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that a representative must present to the City Council and/or County Commission at the appointed date to be eligible for funding: *

Yes

No

We, as a Grantee Organization, have submitted all previous required final reporting to each funding agency. *

Yes

No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that all funding awarded through **Albany County** will be on a reimbursement basis: *

Yes

No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that submission of this application is not a guarantee of funding: *

Yes

No

Digital Signature, Title: *

Joshua Peter Kaffer

Date: *

MM DD YYYY

03 / 10 / 2026

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2025 Skate Laramie Revenue		
Donations		\$812.14
Program Revenue		\$7,715.44
Advertizing Revenue		\$1,000.00
Community Partner Grant		\$2,000.00
Annual Giving		\$4,000.00
Total Revenues		\$15,527.58
2025 Skate Laramie Expenses		
Insurance	\$2,058.67	
Community Partner Grant Expenses	\$424.32	
Payroll 1099	\$1,731.55	
Equipment supplies	\$1,613.58	
Hosting Expense	\$411.65	
Travel	\$48.41	
project budget phase 6	\$4,875.40	
project budget Pop-up skatepark	\$165.14	
office	\$100.00	
Total Expenses	\$11,428.72	
Change in Net Position		\$4,098.86
2025 Skate Laramie Assets		
S. Kiowa land valuation (purchase price)		\$57,305.24
Bank Account		\$12,115.58
Total Asset valuation		\$69,420.82

Skate Laramie Indoor Facility Budget

Category	Sub Category	Estimate	Quote	Budget
Site Prep				\$40,000.00
	Leech field	\$15,000.00		
	Gravel parking lot	\$20,000.00		
	ADA parking spot	\$5,000.00		
Building construction				\$335,000.00
	Colton Construction Post Frame 50x100'		\$179,450.00	
	Blown Insulation		\$56,000.00	
	Rockhard Concrete \$46-70K caissons \$85-100K full foundation		\$65,500.00	
	Water tap South Laramie Water 3/4"		\$6,050.00	
	Plumbing	\$14,000.00		
	Electrical	\$14,000.00		
Interior Build, Shop and Skatepark				\$125,000
	skatepark 4000 sq ft @ ~\$25/sft		\$100,000.00	
	shop floor and framing	\$25,000.00		
Total Build Budget				500,000