



**Your Local Contact: Luisa Craige-Sherman,
Association Executive/CEO
PH: (518) 798-3425
Luisa@SouthernADKRealtors.org**

Placemaking Program & Grant

The Southern Adirondack REALTORS, Inc. (SAR) is your local real estate association connection that may enable your community to access grants offered by the National Association of REALTORS, Inc. Grants are intended to stimulate home ownership and value, community pride and engagement of residents and businesses.

Placemaking is a way to make your community a better place to live by transforming unused sites and “eyesores” into welcoming destinations accessible to everyone in a community. Placemaking can be undertaken by anyone in a community but what is often needed is someone to take the lead or initiative. Who better to do this than a REALTOR® Association, and its members, as REALTORS® are already engaged in their communities and know the neighborhoods and the properties, and are likely to know where to focus efforts to enhance a place.

Placemaking Grants

The Placemaking grant is only available to state and local REALTOR® Associations.

The Placemaking Grant funds the creation of new public spaces and destinations in a community. The grant focuses on “lighter, cheaper, quicker” placemaking projects, which can be built under a year and cost less than \$200,000.

The Placemaking Grant is available for up to \$3,000, depending on engagement of REALTOR® Association, and its members, impact on community and meeting of all project criteria listed below. An association can be approved for up to two grants per year. The second grant application will not be reviewed until the project evaluation form and “after” photo from the first project are submitted. Associations will not be able to submit another application for one year if funds were not used as described in application.

Application Process

The online application would be submitted by the SAR on behalf of their community partner at anytime through October 15, 2018.

- Take a photo(s) of the current site and submit it as the “before” photo.
- Calculate or obtain the project budget (needs to be \$200,000 or under) and submit it with the application.
- Develop or obtain the project’s design or concept plan and submit it with the application.
- NAR Staff will schedule a brief phone call to discuss project and application.
 - You may need to provide additional information.
 - You can have your partners on the call.
- NAR Staff will then review the application after all required information is received.
- NAR Staff will contact the association within 10 days after the phone call.

Project Criteria

The Placemaking Grant can only be used to fund projects that meet the following criteria:

New Public Space Created

Types of projects funded are parks, pocket parks, plazas, parklets, alley activations, trails, dog parks, play/fitness areas, community gardens. See the types of activities the grant does not fund.

- See the types of activities the grant does not fund
- See the types of projects the grant funds.

Association and Member Engagement

Placemaking projects offer an opportunity for REALTOR® Associations and REALTORS® to engage in goodwill efforts in a community. An association, and its members, need to be involved in the planning, designing, funding and/or building of the project. Maximum grant amount is awarded to reflect projects that are association-led or projects where the REALTOR® Association is a main partner.

Multi-Functional & Community-Orientated

Make sure your project meets the following criteria:

- Benefits everyone in the community and includes amenities that everyone can enjoy
- Compliant with city permitting and zoning
- Accessible to the whole community and all residents
- Accessible all or most of the time
- Provides at least 10 things to do or 10 reasons to be there

Project Completion

All projects must be completed within one year of the grant application approval for grant funds to be disbursed. Within one month of project completion, the following should be completed:

- Email photo(s) of the completed project
- Submit the evaluation form outlining impact of project (i.e. use/visits by the community; media coverage; other community projects, community response, outcomes, etc.).
- Celebrate your success. We encourage you to consider having a “ribbon cutting” ceremony or similar event and inviting members, the community, stakeholders and media.
- SAR will write a blog post to be included in the *Spaces to Places* blog. Posts should be no more than 300 words and should include photos and/or videos.

Disbursement of Funds

Funds will be distributed as follows:

- SAR will need the Tax ID number, phone number and copy of their W-9) but not to a government agency.
- Submit proof of how funds were spent.
 - Acceptable forms of proof include an invoice, signed contract, receipts and cancelled checks.
- The request for reimbursement must be made **within 1 year from when the application was approved.**
- Once all documentation is received, NAR will process the check request. It usually takes 10-15 working days for the check to be processed and mailed.

The **Southern Adirondack REALTORS, Inc.** is a nonprofit membership association representing over 500 REALTORS and Affiliate businesses who serve Warren County, Northern Washington and Saratoga Counties as well as portions of Essex County. The association's mission is to strive to provide its members with programs and services which enhance the members' ability to successfully conduct their business in a competent and ethical manner and to promote the public's right to use and transfer real property. The Southern Adirondack REALTORS, Inc. is a member of the New York State Association of REALTORS, Inc. (NYSAR) and the National Association of REALTORS, Inc. (NAR).