HEALTHY PLACES Seed Grant Program, 2023

Opportunity: The School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (MAPP) and the School of Public Health (SPH) at the University of Maryland (UMD) are excited to announce the inaugural **2023 Healthy Places seed grant program**. This funding mechanism is intended to stimulate exciting and impactful interdisciplinary research, scholarship and practice (hereafter research | practice) that has the potential to:

- Enhance research | practice visibility through publications and exhibitions.
- Support the formation of new interdisciplinary teams and work directions.
- Catalyze follow-on, external funding by validating proof-of-concept designs, new methodological approaches or securing new pilot data.

Projects funded through this program are expected to lead to measurable outcomes including but not limited to: a peer-reviewed publication, a public exhibition with an accompanying publication, a workshop or conference with an accompanying report or a proposal for external support (research and/or fellowship). Research outcomes and products are expected, as opposed to teaching-and-learning outcomes.

Proposals across MAPP programs are encouraged. A specific funding level has been defined to support MAPP practitioners. This program is designed to catalyze and promote research | practice relationships between MAPP and SPH. While MAPP-led, interdisciplinary teams from all schools and colleges at UMD may apply; those that form partnerships with SPH researchers/practitioners may be eligible for additional funding support.

Weight will be given to proposals with the following:

- early or mid-career researchers who have not cultivated significant external funding,
- a collaboration with a SPH researcher,
- a partnership between a senior and early career researcher.

SPH and MAPP researchers are poised to collaborate to answer questions integral to the development of healthy and equitable communities through community-engaged, applied, theoretical or basic research multidisciplinary, multi-investigator teams. Potential interdisciplinary thematic topics that may be of interest include —but are not limited to:

- Space and wellbeing, including mental health.
- Spatial thinking – development of methodologies for working with qualitative and quantitative researchers.
- Health behavior and health education in public housing.
- Scenario planning – create a dictionary of how urban planners, architects, SPH professionals use scenario planning to help make decisions and/or anticipate uncertain forces in the future.

Awards: Up to $125,000 in funding is available.

- **Level 1: Visibility grants** will provide up to $10,000 for the development of an exhibition or up to $2,500 for a peer-reviewed publication of a completed design, exhibition, or scholarly work. This level is intended to support MAPP practitioners. If an exhibition is planned, details on the exhibit venue should be addressed and an accompanying report on the development process (that may subsequently be turned into a peer-reviewed publication) is required. One-to-five awards are envisioned.

- **Level 2: Roadmap grants** will provide up to $10,000 for __new__, interdisciplinary teams. Teams with SPH researchers may be eligible for an __additional__ $5,000 in funding for a total of __$15,000__.

  At least one Co-PI from MAPP and another UMD school or college is required. Teams who have worked together in the recent past or who currently have an active grant together are not eligible. Teams with a SPH researcher may be awarded an __additional__ $5,000 in funding from the SPH, for a total of __$15,000__. Funding may be used to

explore new research | practice avenues through various activities including: proof-of-concept or pilot data creation, the spatial visualization of a research track, or a workshop/conference on the research topic resulting in an accompanying report/publication. Specific outcomes must be proposed and achieved during the project execution one-year timeline. This level is intended to spur new explorations; the proposed outcomes may not be very developed. However, the process used during the exploration activities can be turned into a publication or report. Aspirational progress over the collaboration may lead to the pursuit of external grant opportunities. Awardees will be expected to check-in regularly with the MAPP research development team during the award timeline to document progress. One-to-three awards are envisioned.

- **Level 3: Generator grants** will provide up to $20,000 for research | practice that secures a proof-of-concept, new methodological approach, or pilot data foundational for a full proposal to an external funding opportunity. Teams with SPH researchers may be eligible for an <u>additional</u> $10,000 in funding for a total of <u>$30,000</u>.

  At least one Co-PI from MAPP and another UMD school or college is required. These projects may push the boundaries of current knowledge along a single research track or be more broadly interdisciplinary. Milestones for this level will include the generation of a proof-of-concept or pilot data, used to support the submission of an external grant opportunity six months following the one-year project. Specific outcomes must be proposed and achieved during the project timeline. Interdisciplinary research teams with a SPH researcher may be eligible for an <u>additional</u> $10,000 in funding —$5,000 from SPH and an additional $5,000 from MAPP—for a total of <u>$30,000</u>. One-to-three awards are envisioned.

Eligibility:

- MAPP, TTK, PTK, Lecturers, Adjuncts, and Post-Doctoral Fellows, full and part-time, are eligible to apply. Joint applications with SPH researchers may be eligible for additional funding.
- SPH PTK and TTK faculty are eligible with a MAPP Co-PI.

Model: A lottery-based funding model will be used. Proposers will submit a full package that will be reviewed to ensure adherence to minimum requirements.

Review panel for minimum criteria: The Review Committee will comprise individuals from MAPP and SPH if collaborations are submitted. Each proposal will be reviewed based on the <u>five criteria below</u> for entry into the lottery. Reviewers will consider each proposal separately and provide written feedback. The committee will then meet to agree on the total overall score of each proposal. Reviewers may amend their previous comments and scores.

1. Originality, significance, quality and future impact of the proposed work (35%).
2. Strength of the research | practice rationale. How grounded is the proposed work in existing research | practice literature and practice? (10%).
3. Feasibility of the proposed work to be completed and produce the intended outcomes/milestones (35%).
4. Innovation of the design, methodological approach, practice or research framework (10%).
5. Proposer is an early or mid-career researcher who has not cultivated significant external funding; or a collaboration with the SPH researcher; or a partnership between a senior and early career researcher (10%).

Lottery Process: Following the review process, proposers may be asked to update/amend outcomes and milestones proposed, per reviewer suggestions, to proceed to the lottery phase. Proposals that are rated at 65% or higher on the minimum evaluation criteria will be entered into the lottery for each level. Awards will be drawn randomly from this pool. The number of awards per level may be adjusted per budgets requested and/or the number of proposals entered per level. If the pool does not meet the program requirements and intentions, the competition may be ended without awards and redesigned. Reviewer-written comments will be returned to all proposers.

Award process: Awards will be contingent on any required IRB approval. Awards are intended to be used over a one-year period. **Awards <u>must</u> be expended by July 31, 2024.** Grantees' related research products will acknowledge

the Healthy Places seed grant program. Grantees' will notify the SPH and MAPP of any subsequent proposals, papers or other external products produced and disseminated.

Grantees' will engage in a:
- mid-year check-in with the seed grant team,
- written final report on the project outcomes and process,
- poster session research day, following the project execution (April 2024).

Submission deadline —Monday, April 3, 2023, by 5 pm. Submission is online at the UMD Limited Submission and Seed Grant Portal site (https://umd.infoready4.com).

Review committee decisions are expected by Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

Proposal preparation: Proposal narrative should not exceed three (3) single-spaced pages in length, exclusive of title page, graphics/timeline, references, budget and CVs. Font size 11+ and 0.5-page margins (minimum) should be used.
- Completion of a SPH Research Administration online Intent to Submit Form is required for proposals that include SPH researchers. The SPH ORA can assist SPH researchers with pre-award budget preparation and SPH Departments will manage post-award.
- Completion of a MAPP online Notice of Submission Intent (NOSI) form is required for all proposals. The MAPP Research support team can assist MAPP proposers with budget preparation and post-award management.

TITLE PAGE —1 page	Title PI names, degree(s), title(s) and affiliation Research teams' names, degrees, titles and institutions Seed Level Abstract (250 words max)
PROJECT NARRATIVE —3 pages	The research plan should include the following information for Level 1: brief introduction, significance and impact of the work, exhibit or publication plan, outcomes and milestones, timeline. For Levels 2 and 3, please include: brief introduction and background to the research area/questions highlighting the need for collaborative research, specific aims/research questions to be addressed, significance and innovation of the proposed research, approach and methods, anticipated challenges (if applicable), expected impact of findings, outcomes and milestones, proposed future external funding sources (optional for Level 2, required for Level 3), timeline of research activities.
BUDGET	Excel budget; written justifications can be brief. No page limit.
REFERENCES	No page limit.
GRAPHICS —1 page	One additional page for any graphics, pictures, designs, or research activities timeline is permissible.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION —does not count to page limit	--NIH bio-sketches are permissible; other CV styles may be used, not to exceed 4 pages. --Include a human subjects research statement if applicable. --Include a brief description of any export controls if applicable. --External community partnership letters of collaboration (not support) are acceptable.

FAQ's

1) MAPP-specific: budgets may not be used for course buyouts. Summer salary use is allowed.
2) SPH-specific: course buyouts are allowed. Summer salary use is allowed.
3) All budgets: indirect costs are not needed; salary costs, including students, must include fringe and tuition benefits.
4) Equipment (computers, software) and materials purchases are allowed.
5) Awards are intended to be used over a one-year period. Funds must be expended by July 31, 2024.

For further information please contact: MAPP: Tara Burke, tburke13@umd.edu; SPH: Robin Puett, rpuett@umd.edu
Last update on 2/1/2023.