



GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT & RESEARCH PRIORITIES – 2023

BACKGROUND

The Land Economics Foundation (LEF) of Lambda Alpha International (LAI) is seeking grant proposals that advance the field of land economics from qualified individuals, academic programs, non-profit organizations, and LAI chapters.

LEF is a not-for-profit foundation created in 1965 to administer a grant-making investment fund on behalf of the members of LAI, the global, multidisciplinary honorary society dedicated to:

Connecting professionals. Sharing knowledge. Advancing best practices.

LAI was founded in 1930 by students of Professor Richard T. Ely at Northwestern University:

<https://www.lai.org/about/history> It has a commitment to education for the next generation of leaders and encourages projects that expand teacher-student interest in planning and economics at all levels: high school, college, university, and institute.

LEF continues to reach out to numerous Colleges and Universities, nationally and globally, in support of academic research in areas such as urban history, land use law, sustainable development, construction management, architectural design, planning, and market analysis.

LEF seeks collaboration (and shared funding) with non-profit groups such as the American Real Estate Society (ARES), American Planning Association (APA), Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), Urban Land Institute (ULI), Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) Ontario Association of Land Economists (AOLE), Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC), and the LAI Chapters.

TIMELINE

The LEF Board of Trustees meets several times per year to consider and approve grant applications and to review projects and research underway. However, proposals may be submitted on-line at any time:

www.lai.org/proposal-guidelines

GRANTEE GUIDELINES

Grantees are expected to provide final reports or “case study” results and are encouraged to seek publication in peer journals with credit cited for LEF funding and support. Articles summarizing the project or research and grantee presentation are often featured in **LAI Keynotes**:

www.lai.org/keynotes-articles

Grantees are also invited to present their completed projects via webinar to the LAI members – these presentations may also be video recorded and posted to the LAI website.

Grant amounts typically range from \$5,000 to \$20,000, with preference for proposals with matching funding sources and collaborations that can leverage the LEF grant and to those which include the participation of a local LAI Chapter: www.lai.org/chapters

2023 RESEARCH PRIORITIES

The LEF Board is focused on these key research priorities for 2023 to guide its grant review process, although innovative research and projects in land economics on other topics and subject areas will also be eligible for funding and will be fully considered.

Economic Deserts and its impact on the land value, development opportunities, and community well-being.

Economic Deserts generally lack what are considered the common social determinants of health. Grants should identify the breadth of one or more of the issues within a specific location, while addressing policies, mitigation costs, development incentives, etc. that will break the economic desert cycle for the specific study and its implications for application on a larger scale.

Ownership, changing paradigms.

Numerous sources are citing the shift in priorities toward ownership. Grants focused upon what may be the new definition of ownership, what is “taking its place”, and how this is affecting land economics are encouraged.

Land use regulatory changes which positively address Equity and Inclusion, the Legacy of Racism, and Increasing Diversity.

Consideration for case studies which highlight jurisdictions that have pro-actively used regulatory policies such as zoning or incentives in support of equity, diversity, inclusion, and social justice as a win-win for all.

Changing Work, Shopping and Commuting Patterns and Impact on Workplaces, Real Estate Sector Demand and Transit

Covid-19 has imposed drastic changes on people’s daily activities around the world. Studies related to how these behavioral changes have impacted our work/ life balance, its implications on the built environment, and suggested modifications to current policies would be appreciated.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/RESOURCES

For guidance regarding projects and research, grant amounts, and grantees please see **Funded Research** for 2006-2022 projects on the LAI website: www.lai.org/lef-funded-research

Please direct your questions related to the LEF grant process to:
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