

City of Douglas Economic Development Funding Application

Question 8 Attachment

A. Brief summary of project:

The purpose of this program is to enhance the economic and social vitality of our community by improving the façade of commercial buildings in the City of Douglas.

As projects are completed throughout Douglas, other businesses take notice of their neighbors or other business facades that look so much better with some new windows, siding, awnings, signage, etc. and as they learn about the Façade Beautification Grant Program they decide to pursue making their own improvements. A \$1-for-\$1 match up to \$5,000 is a significant enough amount of money for them to seriously consider applying. Even if their project is well over the combined \$10,000 amount, \$5,000 makes it worth their while.

B. Overview and how it meets Community and City of Douglas goals:

The City of Douglas has long had a goal of beautification of our downtown as well as the rest of our business districts. This program is popular with businesses and building owners.

We have 24 approved projects, with six not completed. We have a waiting list of businesses interested once we secure another round of funding.

C. Describe time frame in which project will take place, including completion date:

This would be a Phase 4 project. Upon approval, projects could begin immediately.

D. Describe if a new or ongoing program:

This is an ongoing program. Funding will be for Phase 4.

E. Overall goals, impacts/outcomes, and objectives:

Our goal would be 10 successful projects (10 x \$5,000 each); however, more projects may be completed if requested amounts are less than \$5,000 each.

We have developed a thorough application. Each submitted application first goes before the City Planning Department, then is reviewed by the Enterprise Business Assistance Committee where a comprehensive review is done. The grant is reimbursable, so the project must be completed per the criteria before final payment will be disbursed to the applicant. THE PROJECT APPLICATION IS ATTACHED.

F. Criteria for success:

The Enterprise has found Façade Beautification Improvement Projects to be great incentives for businesses to make repairs and improvements they might otherwise have not considered or just put off until “later.” The full list of all projects is attached. Results to date have been:

- a. Phase 1, funded by the Enterprise. We funded 11 projects, 8 were within the Main Street District.
 - i. Our portion of the projects totaled \$49,685.34.
 - ii. The projects themselves totaled \$185,568.14.
 - iii. Our contribution was 26.6% of the total cost of the projects.

- b. Phase 2, funded by the City of Douglas. One project was funded and was within the Main Street District.
 - i. The project was for Bobbi's House.
 - ii. Project total was \$5,865.58. Our portion was \$2,932.79.
 - iii. Our contribution was 50% of the total project cost.

- c. Phase 3, funded by the City of Douglas. We have approved 12 projects, 8 are within the Main Street District.
 - i. Our portion of the projects total \$51,805.
 - ii. The projects themselves totaled approximately \$137,050.62 (a few aren't completed so probable rising construction costs are not included in this number.)
 - iii. Our contribution was 38% of the total cost of the projects.

- d. Totals for all three Phases:

Project Costs	\$328,484.34
Grant Paid	\$104,423.13
Avg Grant % of Projects	32%

G. Who will evaluate this work?

The City of Douglas Planning Department through the permit process and the Enterprise Business Assistance Committee.

H. Project completion and maintenance?

Each business will submit who will be doing the work on the project. Upon completion, it will be up to the building owner to do continued maintenance.

I. Are you seeking or have you received any other funding for this project?

We require a \$1-for-\$1 match up to a cap of \$5,000 from our grant program. Anything over that initial \$10,000 is covered by the business/building owner submitting the grant application.