



Goal: To encourage local economic growth and development by making downtown Beloit an attractive location to live, work, play and do business. Façade Grants target improvements that contribute to the overall streetscape aesthetic of the downtown business district and aim to improve individual building image and functionality for business/building owners.

Strategy: Building and Business owners may apply for matching grants up to \$1,000 for façade renovations.

Design Guidelines: Applicants must comply with DBA design guidelines created to support both historic preservation and appropriate modernization using high quality materials to achieve a pleasant and cohesive downtown look.

Grant Review and Approval: DBA staff actively solicit grant applications based upon targeted improvement. The DBA Design Committee reviews all proposals and awards funding, based upon fund availability and compliance with design guidelines.

Funding Source: This matching grant program has an annual budget and is funded primarily through the Downtown Business Improvement District (BID) via the Downtown Beloit Association.

Who can apply? Building and Business owners (or a joint venture of these two parties) of taxable commercial properties located within the BID (see Design Guidelines) are eligible for this program, with the exception of publicly owned buildings. All properties must be in conforming use under the City's zoning ordinance except a commercial use that is nonconforming due to lot, bulk, or yard requirements and/or possessing a zoning variance. While business owners who do not own the property may apply, written permission from the building owner and proof of leasehold is required.

Properties with outstanding tax assessments or code violations are not eligible unless the grant is primarily intended to reverse code violations.

Frequency: One grant per year per property owner and/or tenant per building or address.

Grant Terms: Grants made under this program shall be a minimum \$500 and shall not exceed \$1,000 per building. The applicant provides at least a 50% cash match to the total project cost.

Grant projects must have a minimum investment of \$1,000 per building. Grant funds are distributed upon successful completion of the project.

The Design Committee reserves the right to offer matching grants within the range of \$500 and \$1,000 based on need, fund availability and overall physical impact to streetscape objectives.

Eligible Expenses: Exterior repairs and renovations on commercial storefronts and facades visible to public streets, alleys, parking and pedestrian walkway areas in compliance with the Design Guidelines.



Exterior eligible expenses include but are not limited to the following:

1. Repair and/or replacement of original building materials and deteriorated or missing decorative details that restore historic elements.
2. Repair of non-original materials unable to be removed due to structural integrity of the underlying original building material.
3. Design and maintenance improvements made to the front, rear, or side building elevations.
4. Cleaning of exterior building surfaces
5. Tuck pointing and masonry repair
6. Painting
7. Repair, replacement or addition of entrances, doors, display windows, transoms or second story windows.
8. Removal and/or repair of existing signs and awnings. Additions or signs and awnings compatible to the downtown Design Guidelines.
9. Other items that are viewed as necessary or complimentary to the properties exterior renovations.
10. Modifications for handicapped accessibility.

Ineligible Expenses: Roofing repairs, new building construction, purchase of property, buildings, equipment, fixtures and furnishings, inventory or operating capital. Projects completed prior to grant application.

Additional Requirements: Some properties within the district are on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. These properties must also conform to the Department of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation and therefore, must also be reviewed and approved by the City of Beloit Landmarks Commission. This is an entirely separate process.

Interested? Please contact the Downtown Beloit Association at 608-365-0150 to discuss your façade plans and to determine if the proposed project is eligible for grant assistance under the terms and conditions of this grant program.

Application Submission and Review: Downloadable grant applications are available in this document and from the DBA. or can be downloaded at <http://downtownbeloit.com/us/resources/grants>

Submit completed forms and attachments directly to DBA staff for initial review. If the proposed design does not meet the Design Guidelines, DBA Staff will meet with the applicant to discuss solutions and revise the application prior to committee review. The DBA Design Committee meets monthly to review and approve grant applications that meet design guideline criteria.

Successful applicants will receive a letter of intent to provide project funds. Sometimes mitigating circumstances arise that do not allow an applicant to complete the approved plan. Minor changes may be authorized by DBA staff. Significant deviations from the approved design plan will require additional review and approval by the Design Committee. Unapproved, substantial deviations will result in withdrawal of grant award.

When do you get your money? Grant funds become available when the façade project is successfully completed and certified by DBA staff.



Applicant Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Property address (must be within Downtown Beloit District):

Building Owner Information and Confirmation (if different from applicant)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I approve this building project.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

GENERAL INFORMATION

Historic Preservation:

What year was this building constructed? _____

Is this building listed on the National Registry of Historic Places? _____

If yes: You may be eligible for tax credits. Would you like more information on Tax Credits?

Also you will need to go through City of Beloit Architectural Review and Landmark's Commission approval.

Project Narrative:

Please briefly describe the work you propose to do for this project and attach a design plan / rendering of work to be completed. Include paint, awning color samples, architectural renderings or computer-generated images of both the current and completed facade:



Are you interested in receiving free design assistance for this project? _____

Will you be using the services of a design professional for this project? _____

Project Start and Estimated Completion Dates: _____

Note: work needs to be completed within 90 days of project approval. Extenuating circumstances will be considered.

Project Budget:

What is the total estimated cost of this project? _____

Please attach a contractor estimate that itemizes the major components for this project.

Award request amount: \$ _____

(These are matching funds, up to \$1,000. For example a \$1,200 project is eligible for a maximum of \$600)

Check List:

Here is a check list of attachments to be submitted with the application.

- A recent photo showing current condition of the building and neighboring properties.
- Historic photos of site and neighboring properties if applicable.
- Color samples for paint and canvas.
- Scale drawing showing alterations.
- Copies of itemized cost estimates from contractors.
- If the project is being carried out by a tenant, written approval from the property owner and evidence of leasehold interest must be provided (property owner must also sign Grant application).
- Proof of Architectural Review (if required)
- Proof of Landmarks Commission approval (if required)
- Copies of necessary permits

The information submitted herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I have read and understand the conditions of the Downtown Beloit Association's Façade Grant Program and agree to abide by its conditions and guidelines.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____



FOR DBA USE ONLY

Received: _____

Verified: _____

Approved: _____

Modifications: _____

Completed: _____

Certified: _____

Paid: _____