



Elk Rapids Downtown Development Authority Business Development Façade Mini Grant Program

The Business Development Façade Mini Grant Program is presented by the Elk Rapids Downtown Development Authority (DDA.)

Program Purpose

The Business Development Façade Mini Grant Program is intended to promote reinvestment and restoration of commercial buildings in the downtown district, with a focus on supporting historic preservation practices. The program is intended to assist property owners and commercial tenants to rehabilitate and restore the visible exterior of existing structures. Improvements must meet criteria for appropriateness of design. Reimbursement grants are provided to property owners or commercial tenants in recognition of the positive impact that individual building improvements can have on the overall appearance, quality and vitality of downtown Elk Rapids.

Program Description

This program provides a matching grant for façade improvements within the DDA district. It is a competitive grant program. For every dollar awarded the applicant must spend an equal amount. Individual grant amounts will be up to 50 percent of project cost up to \$2,000. Recommendations for funding grant applications will be made by the Business Development Committee to the DDA Board to make final grant-funding decisions. \$2,000 is allocated to the fund each year with no minimum or maximum number of projects awarded.

Eligibility

Property owners or leaseholders of all commercial or mixed use buildings within the DDA District with special emphasis on properties within the core downtown district. DDA district map is available at www.elkrapids.org/downtown-development-authority.

Applications for projects must be reviewed and approved by the Business Development Committee and DDA Board. Eligible items include, but may not be limited to:

- Removal of siding that was used to cover original building materials
- Exterior brick or wall surface cleaning
- Pointing of brick/mortar joint repair
- Patching and painting of façade
- Window and/or door replacement/repair
- Awnings
- Signage including blade signs
- Flower boxes or design elements
- Any architectural details in need of repair and/or replacement

Funding Guidelines

Grant deadline is April 30 annually. Projects must be completed within 90 days of the date the grant is awarded. All applicants must be in good standing with the Village of Elk Rapids. No grant will be awarded until the project is 100% completed.

For questions or to apply contact the Downtown Development Coordinator, Amanda Baker, amanda@northernlakes.net.