

BALTIMORE DOWNTOWN BUSINESS FAÇADE GRANT PROGRAM



2010 Grant Information

The Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee and the Baltimore Village Council is excited to announce a collaborative effort to assist commercial property owners in the Downtown Business Districts in financing permanent, visible façade improvements. Approved projects include, but are not limited to, paint, new windows, siding, awnings, transoms, and sidewalk repairs.

Re-investment in the downtown benefits residents by providing better and closer shopping, a healthy local economy, and stable or improved home values. Business owners benefit by increased sales, improved image, and an increased value of business. The local village government benefits by an increased economic growth, positive perception of the community, and increased interest by other businesses. No one loses. Statistics show that re-investing \$1.00 in the downtown will generate more than \$28.00 back to the community.

In June, 2007 the Baltimore Village Council approved legislation funding the Baltimore Business Façade Grant Program in the amount of \$5,000.00 for 2007. The initial funding provided for the grant to match \$1.00 for every \$3.00 of improvement expense (1/3rd / 2/3rd). In April, 2010, the Baltimore Village Council approved a recommendation by the Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee to change the grant match to \$1.00 for every \$2.00 of improvement expense (50/50). Permanent building projects which improve the façade of a building are eligible for this program. Maximum grants of \$750.00, with an owner match of one times the grant requested, will be awarded (e.g., if the owner has improvement expense of \$1,000 for the project, they may request \$500.00 in grant reimbursement). This is a reimbursement grant; all expenses must be paid and work must be completed prior to payment. Applications must be fully completed, and no work can commence until the application is approved. Once the work is completed and bills are submitted, payment will be made.

The Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee, an independent, non-profit organization whose purpose is to stimulate downtown economic development, has graciously agreed to administer this program.

Grant application deadlines for 2010 are: December 15, 2009; March 15, 2010; June 15, 2010; and, September 15, 2010.

Rules and Regulations

1. No application will be approved if postmarked later than the deadline.
2. Applications must be submitted by the property owner, even if a lessee is having the work performed.
3. To be eligible, work to be performed must be permanent and visible from the street.
4. The maximum grant reimbursement for a project will be \$750.00, even if the project costs more than two times the reimbursement.

5. To be eligible, the property must be located within the Downtown Business Districts and be used for business (not residential). A mixed use building (business on the first floor and residential on the second floor) is eligible.
6. A property owner may apply in more than one application period within a year; however, only one grant award will be made.
7. All work must be completed prior to requesting reimbursement.
8. The Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee reserves the right to make all decisions related to the implementation of this grant program. Awards will be based on the organization's determination of which projects will most affect the district.

The Grant Application may be obtained from:

- The Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee website – www.BaltimoreDowntownRestoration.com
- The Village of Baltimore website – www.BaltimoreOhio.org
- Captivating Images Photography, 120 E Market Street, Baltimore, Ohio.