

FACT SHEET

The intent of the Façade Improvement Program is to strengthen the economic viability of Lansing's commercial corridors by providing targeted assistance for improving the appearance and structural conditions of building façades in highly visible and critical areas of the city. Projects will be assessed thoroughly and chosen primarily on aesthetics, need, impact, financial capacity, and their critical strategic location.

ELIGIBILITY

- The program is directed at commercial, office, and mixed-use buildings adjacent to main corridors and neighborhood nodes within the City of Lansing.
- Property owners and tenants are eligible to apply, but if a tenant applies, the building owner must support the improvements in writing.
- Eligible activities are for a building façade only but may include windows, signage, awnings, doors, brickwork, lighting, and improvements to create barrier free and accessible entryways as part of the overall façade improvement.
- No activity will be eligible that is separate from an overall façade. For instance, landscaping/streetscaping, light poles, building permits, equipment, and roof repairs are not eligible.
- All improvements must be fixed/permanent.
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

GRANT AWARDS

The Façade Improvement Program offers three types of flexible grant awards. Applications are considered on a first come, first served basis and *award amount is up to the decision of the design committee*.

1. **Design Grant: Require a 25% match on design grants**
2. **Transformational Improvements, 50% program match up to a maximum of \$20,000 in grant funds.**
3. **Aesthetic and Maintenance Improvements, 50% program match up to \$10,000.**

TRANSFORMATIONAL IMPROVEMENT AWARD– \$20,000 MAX

For transformational façade projects grant funds will provide a match of 50% of the total project cost up to a maximum \$20,000 grant award. This award is for façade projects involving substantial restoration, rehabilitation, or replacement and amount awarded will ultimately be decided by the design committee. Please see eligible activities below.

Must include a combination of eligible items from “Aesthetic & Maintenance Improvements” along with one or more of the following items:

- Structural Improvements to façade
- Removal/replacement of inappropriate or incompatible exterior finishes or materials
- Door/window/storefront system/trim replacement or repair
- Brick/stone/masonry

The grant funds are provided on a reimbursement basis and offers no upfront money.

For example: If the total project cost is \$35,000, \$17,500 will be the grant match. The grant recipient will be eligible to receive up to \$17,500 reimbursement after project completion. Or, if the total project cost is \$50,000, a maximum of \$20,000 will be the grant match. The grant recipient will be eligible to receive up to \$20,000 reimbursement after project completion.

The Façade Design Committee reserves the right to approve or deny the proposed changes. Any work not approved as eligible by the committee will not be reimbursed. The committee reserves the right to propose changes or additions to the plans as they have been submitted. Award amounts are offered at the discretion of the Façade Committee and may change depending on the project and program demand.

AESTHETIC AND MAINTENANCE AWARD – \$10,000 MAX

For aesthetic and maintenance façade projects grant funds will provide a match of 50% of the total project cost up to a maximum \$10,000 award. Please see below the eligible improvements under this award category.

Must include a compelling combination of at least two of the following items:

- Signage and/or awning replacements or improvements
- ADA compliance improvements
- Masonry repairs or cleaning, cornice repair
- Exterior painting and stucco
- Repair/replacement of gutters and down spouts
- Window and door repair or replacement
- Building exterior cleaning, and exterior painting

The grant funds are provided on a reimbursement basis and offers no upfront money.

For example: If the total project cost is \$10,000, a maximum of \$5000 will be the grant match. The grant recipient will be eligible to receive up to \$5000 reimbursement after project completion. Or, if the total project cost is \$6000, \$3000 will be the grant match. The grant recipient will be eligible to receive up to \$3000 reimbursement after project completion.

The Façade Design Committee reserves the right to approve or deny the proposed changes. Any work not approved as eligible by the committee will not be reimbursed. The committee reserves the right to propose changes or additions to the plans as they have been submitted. Award amounts are offered at the discretion of the Façade Committee and may change depending on the project and program demand.

DESIGN PROGRAM AWARD – UP TO \$2000

This grant award is for development of renderings, façade designs and material specifications to assist with the application of a matching grant award. Up to a \$2,000 award value per applicant (total of \$10,000 available in this category) will be provided to assist the candidate with a design plan. A 25% match is required by the façade applicant and the payment will directly go to the architect(s). Further architectural/engineering costs related to the façade that are beyond the award value are the responsibility of the applicant but may be approved as match for a future grant award. Pre-application form and letter of commitment to façade improvement are required. Due to limited funds, consideration will be based on need on a case by case basis.

Awardees must be approved and enter into a Grant and Design Agreement prior to the start of any work. Previous façade improvements and unapproved work will not be funded.

TIMELINE

- Application Period Open: January 02, 2022
- Application Period Closed: March 01, 2022
- Project Completion and Reimbursement Submission Deadline: September 31, 2022

HOW TO APPLY

Apply at www.purelansing.com/facadeprogram. Please submit the required documents with the online pre-application. If your pre-application is approved, you will be invited to submit a full application packet.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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