

Draft
Façade Grant Funding Proposal

Objective: To make financial grants which support the improvement of the visual impacts of the downtown building facades on visitors, shop owners, residents of the downtown and community, shoppers, and employees in line with the goals of GURA and the Community.

Purposes: To support changes that further public building safety and entrance ways of downtown buildings.

To support the removal of existing wooden overhangs in the downtown.

To support the energy efficiency in the design and installation of new facades.

To support the improvement in the physical looks of downtown buildings consistent with the evolving Community Guidelines and Standards.

Grants: Downtown Façade Funding Categories and Percentages of Façade Costs paid

Category	Percent Funded
Funding of Costs for Public Safety Purposes	50% - 95%
Funding of Costs for Removal of current Wooden Overhangs	90%
Funding of Costs for Energy Efficiency Improvements	75%
Funding of Costs for General Façade Improvements	50%

Caps Multi-Year Financial Caps per each Façade Grant

Year	Dollar Cap
2007	\$2,000
2008	\$2,000
2009	\$5,000
2010 – 2013	funds paid out in total for each multiyear grant in the order approved by GURA and based on yearly funds available.

Facade

Check-List: Executive Director develops a Façade Check-List for building owners to identify specific façade items within each grant category. The Check-List will also specify energy efficiency standards for items under “Energy Efficiency Improvements.”

Discussion:

For example, outside painting, repairs, fixing up etc. would be funded at 50 percent. The replacement of existing windows with energy efficient windows would be funded at 75 percent. Also included would be the installation of new energy efficiency awnings at 75 percent. The removal of the wooden overhangs would be funded at 90 percent as this is what the GURA Board has indicated would be desirable for the downtown. Public safety improvements, for example, a front doorway arch that is failing and needs replacement would be funded up to 95%.

Further, the Board could commit the funds over multiple years (similar to Miner's Alley Playhouse), paying smaller percentages of the awarded amounts in the 2007 and 2008 year and larger percentages after 2008.

The board may want to limit the number of yearly Façade Grants awards to the extent of the yearly approved budget.