

Downtown Garner Façade Grant Program

Purpose

The Façade Grant Program is designed to provide financial assistance for improvement projects to the facades of commercial properties in the Central Business District along Main Street in Downtown Garner. The Grant Program will foster appropriate revitalization based on the Streetscape Study and Design Guidelines document of February 2007. Funding for the program is provided by the Town of Garner and is administered by the Garner Revitalization Association (GRA).

Eligibility

Commercial buildings located in the Central Business District along Main Street between Griffin Street and Montague Street are eligible to apply for grant funding. If the application is made by a tenant, the property owner must give written permission and agree to maintain the property after work is completed.

Examples of Eligible Projects

- Canvas-style awnings
- Paint removal from brick surfaces by gentle methods such as chemical washing and scraping
- Repointing masonry
- Repairing cornices
- Repair/replacement of windows and doors with appropriate materials and design
- Removing false facades and other inappropriate additions
- Replacement of signs with appropriate materials and design

Guidelines

- The Garner Streetscape Study and Design Guidelines and the guidelines of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation will be followed in evaluating façade improvements.
- All plans must be reviewed by the Town of Garner's Planning and Inspections Departments and approved Façade Grant Review Committee before work has begun. There is no reimbursement for projects started before receiving grant approval.
- Renovations shall conform to the building codes required by the Town of Garner and all applicable permits must be obtained.
- Grants are issued on a first-come, first-served basis subject to funding availability.
- Projects must be completed within 90-120 days from the approval date.
- This is a reimbursable grant. Grant funds will be reimbursed once work has been completed, inspected and all copies of all paid receipts presented to GRA.
- Property owners must sign a Maintenance Agreement committing to maintain the property after work is completed.

Criteria

- Up to 50% of the renovation costs, not to exceed \$5,000 will be reimbursed to the property owner upon successful completion of the project.
- Grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are depleted.
- Signs are eligible if they are changed in conjunction with other façade improvements.

Application Process

Grant applications may be submitted to GRA at any time. The award of grants will begin on July 1st of each year, based on availability, and continue until funds are expended.

- Applicant meets with the Executive Director of GRA to review preliminary renovation plans and review application requirements. Applicants may meet consult with Town of Garner officials as needed.
- Applicant submits the completed grant application, design plans or sketches, color and material samples and contractor cost proposal to GRA. Application must be signed by the property owner.
- Applications will be reviewed by the Town of Garner's Planning and Inspections Departments.
- Applications will be reviewed by the Façade Grant Review Committee on a monthly basis.

Reimbursement Process

- Upon completion of the project, the Façade Grant Review Committee and representatives from the Town of Garner's Planning and Inspections Departments will inspect the property.
- Proof of expenses and proof of payment will be submitted to GRA for reimbursement.
- Grant funds will be paid within 30 days of final approval.

Downtown Garner

Facade Grant Application

Applicant Name: _____

Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____ Email: _____

Name of Property Owner (if different): _____

Owner' Mailing Address: _____

Owner's Telephone #: _____ Email: _____

Description of Improvements (attach if necessary):

Estimated Cost of Improvements: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Owner: _____ Date: _____

Please submit the following with your application:

Design Plans /
Sketches

Color and
Material Samples

Contractor's Cost
Proposal

