



FAÇADE GRANT PROGRAM

ABOUT THE FAÇADE GRANT

The Façade Grant Program provides financial assistance for exterior building and property improvements within the Tavares Community Redevelopment Area (CRA). The program is a competitive, matching grant program designed to encourage building reinvestment within the CRA for commercial and residential properties.

CRITERIA

The Façade Grant Program reimburses participating private property owners for a portion of façade improvements considered eligible for reimbursement on commercial and residential property located within the Community Redevelopment Area. The program reimburses property owners up to **50%** of the total cost of the façade improvements to the amount of **\$10,000** whichever is less. Applicants must commit to expending (at a minimum) a cash match equal to the funds sought in the application. Participation is based on a first come, first serve basis and is limited to the program funds allocated annually by the City Council.

I. Improvements Eligible for Reimbursement must:

- a. Be on existing building and/or property adjacent to a building within the Community Redevelopment Area (see attached exhibit A).
- b. Be easily seen from a public street or be made to specifically accommodate handicap accessibility in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- c. If the property is on the local register of historically significant places, be consistent with the City of Tavares Historic Property Design Guidelines.
- d. Be approvable for a City Building Permit, as applicable.

II. Improvements Not Eligible for Reimbursement include:

- a. Any improvements not visible from the public street such as roof work to repair leaks and cracks.
- b. Internal improvements even though seen through a window, plumbing, and electrical work, with the exception of those improvements made to provide handicap accessibility.
- c. Landscape maintenance.
- d. General maintenance such as cleaning.

III. Application

At minimum, each application must contain proof of ownership and elevations or details of the proposed improvements. If a licensed contractor does the improvements the application must submit a paid invoice to qualify for reimbursement of both the cost of labor and materials. Reimbursement by the City will be based on the actual improvements constructed. If the owner does the improvements, only the cost of materials will qualify for reimbursement. The property owner is responsible for providing the City with a paid receipt for materials and/or services upon completion of the work. The application is available online at <http://www.tavares.org>. The Economic Development Department can also be contacted at (352) 742-6402 for assistance regarding the grant.

IV. Reimbursement

Once construction is completed, the City staff should be contacted for final inspection of the improvements. The staff shall provide the approved reimbursement funds within 30 days upon the determination that all criteria have been met and the application has been submitted.

The City of Tavares is delighted to have the opportunity to assist local businesses with the grant. We feel it is a privilege to offer assistance to those businesses that serve and employ the citizenry of this great city. If you have any questions regarding the Façade Grant and whether or not you qualify for the funds please call (352) 742-6402 weekdays from 8:30-4:30pm.

Properties Eligible for the Façade Grant Program

City Of Tavares : Economic Development Department
201 E. Main Street | Tavares, Florida 32778 | (352) 742-6402 | www.tavares.org