



## **FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

### **PROGRAM SUMMARY:**

The program is structured as a 50/50 matching grant for improvements to the exterior of commercial properties within the city limits of Smithville, Texas.

The intent of the program is to:

- Encourage commercial property owners to make visible improvements to their businesses;
- Enhance the unique character and aesthetic appearance of commercial properties;
- Promote and maintain the architectural beauty of commercial properties in the downtown commercial district

Grant recipients will be reimbursed for fifty percent (50%) of the cost of eligible expenses up to \$1,000.00 upon satisfactory completion of the work. *Ex: Your project's total cost was \$1,800.00. You could be eligible for up to \$900.00 from the program.*

The deadline to submit an application for the program is August 31, 2024

### **ELIGIBLE PROJECTS:**

Any for-profit business in good standing as a member of the Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce that owns or leases a commercial property within the city limits of Smithville is eligible to apply for the program. Businesses leasing the property must have permission from the owner in writing to turn in with this application.

In order to be eligible for reimbursement, all improvements must be visible from a public right-of-way and be external.

Examples of eligible improvements include, but are not limited to:

- Repairs or improvements to the exterior siding or roofing;
- Cleaning, repointing or removing paint or stucco from exterior brick;
- Restoring original wood windows;
- A fresh coat of paint;
- A new sign that complies with City ordinance;
- Repairs or repainting of outside attachments such as staircases or fire escapes;
- Replacing or repairing an existing awning

The maximum contribution for each grant recipient is \$1,000.00.

## **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:**

All work must comply with the City's Code of Ordinances;

Any projects completed in the city's Historic Commercial District must consult with the Historic Preservation and Design Standards Committee, and may be required to submit an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness;

The applicant must submit receipts for all work for which they wish to be reimbursed. Only eligible expenses will be reimbursed.

Funds will be reimbursed to the applicant upon successful and satisfactory completion of the approved work.

## **Application Review Process:**

Grant recipients within the Smithville Historic Commercial District will be approved by the Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee and the City of Smithville Historic Preservation and Design Standards Committee. Grant recipients located outside the Historic Commercial District will be approved by the Smithville Economic Development Committee.

When determining which applications will receive funding, priority will be given to:

- Projects that demonstrate the greatest overall need/urgency;
- Designated contributing structures;
- Owner-occupied buildings;
- Buildings with no outstanding code violations.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

The application is available on the Chamber of Commerce website at [www.smithvilletx.org](http://www.smithvilletx.org) or a paper version can be picked up at the Chamber offices, 106 NE 1<sup>st</sup>. Street.

The deadline to submit an application is August 31, 2024, 4:00pm.

Please include all relevant information in your application, including a written summary of the request, a cost estimate of the proposed work and photographs of the project location.

You may submit your application by mail, in person or via e-mail to [erika.oneal@smithvilletx.org](mailto:erika.oneal@smithvilletx.org). If applying via mail, send to Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 716, Smithville, TX 78957. If submitting in person, bring to 106 NE 1<sup>st</sup> St. in Smithville.

## **CONTACT US:**

Please feel free to call or e-mail or come by with any questions:

**Erika O'Neal, President**  
**Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce**  
**PO Box 716/100 Main Street**  
**Smithville, TX 78957**  
**(512) 237-2313**

**APPLICATION**

**SECTION 1:**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Building Owner (if different from applicant): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Work (check all that apply):

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh coat of paint                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Siding Repair/Replacement | <input type="checkbox"/> Roof Repair/Replacement   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Masonry: Cleaning/Paint or stucco removal |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Masonry: Repointing       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Window Repair/Replacement                 | <input type="checkbox"/> New Sign                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Awning Repair/Replacement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                               |  |  |

**SECTION 2:**

What is the current use of the property? \_\_\_\_\_

What year was the structure built? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the Property in the Historic Commercial District?  Yes  No

Is the property currently owner-occupied?  Yes  No

Are there any outstanding code violations for this property?  Yes  No

Is the applicant a member in good standing of the Chamber?  Yes  No

Has the applicant applied for and received all necessary permits from the City for this project?  
(Proof required prior to approval of application):  Yes  No

**SECTION 3:**

Please provide details of all planned improvements. Please include photographs of existing conditions that highlight the proposed work. Attach additional sheets if necessary: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are all proposed improvements visible from a public right-of-way?  Yes  No

What is the total anticipated cost of all proposed improvements? \_\_\_\_\_

Total façade improvement grant monies requested? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Building Owner's Signature (if different from applicant)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date