



Attn: Janet Kostelney, Director
P O Box 442
Michigan City, IN 46360

Michigan City Mainstreet

Michigan City Mainstreet Association

FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM



219/363-1407

Purpose & MCMA Design

The Michigan City Mainstreet Association is committed to establishing downtown Michigan City as a hub for commerce, culture, and community through preservation. Creating an inviting environment that incorporates new, attractive amenities as well as preservation and care for architectural assets is crucial.

The Facade Improvement Program provides direct assistance to property owners to improve building facades so they may fully capitalize on their investment while contributing to the aesthetics of the downtown. To manage this program, the Michigan City Mainstreet Association works closely with the City of Michigan City's Planning Department, the MC Historic Review Board, the MC Redevelopment Commission, the MC Economic Development Corporation, and the MC Chamber of Commerce. The Façade Improvement Program will be using the Guidelines For Rehabilitating Historic Buildings established by the National Park Service (N.P.S.) and the design guidelines provided by the Michigan City Historic Review Board to evaluate requests for the grant. Careful following of these procedures and standards is encouraged, keeping in mind the guidelines are a tool to help, not hinder, building improvements.

Things To Remember

- The Michigan City Mainstreet Association accepts applications January 15th and July 15th of each year.
- Notification of grant status in 30 days following the deadline.
- Grants available are subject to change on a year-to-year basis, subject to funding and program development.
- Take pride in your building. You are a part of Michigan City's rich architectural history. Take advantage of it.

General Requirements

- All work must be in accordance with the Michigan City Mainstreet Association's Design Review Guidelines, all applicable local, state and federal codes.
- All exterior code deficiencies or violations and imminent health and safety hazards must be corrected in conjunction with facade renovation.
- Applicant shall be responsible for all construction management and contracting work to be done, as well as obtaining and following all local permits and codes.
- Upon completion of work, ALL receipts must be presented before funding will be available.
- After inspection of property to insure that work completed complies with the design submitted and approved through the application process, agreed reimbursement will be made.
- Property improvements must be completed within six months of approval or applicant will be required to resubmit application with no guarantee of funding.
- Grants are limited to ONE PER ANNUM.



MC Mainstreet's Façade Improvement Grant Program

Eligible Activities

Items include, but are not limited to:

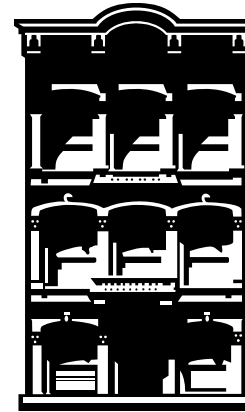
1. Repair to building exterior facades.
2. Masonry repair.
3. Cleaning of building exterior.
4. Exterior painting.
5. Cornices, entrances, doors, windows, decorative detail, awnings.
6. Signs, window display areas.
7. Lighting, or other appropriate enhancements.
8. Other repairs that may improve or restore the aesthetic and historic quality of the building.



Ineligible Activities

Items include, but are not limited to:

1. Interior improvements
2. Roofing
3. Additions to existing structures.
4. Sidewalks
5. Purchase of furnishings or equipment.
6. Improvements completed or in progress prior to notification of approval.
7. Repair or creation of features not compatible with original architecture.



Funding

Facade Improvement Grant

A 50% reimbursement for up to \$5,000 of the actual costs for the facade and/or related exterior rehabilitation expenses. Applicants must match the grant amount with funding

from other sources, public or private.

Architectural Assistance

A 100% reimbursement for up to \$500 of actual architectural costs associated with facade improvements, providing the owner utilizes the architectural plans in the facade renovation. This assistance is for properties eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings (50 years or older).

Sign, Awning, and Lighting Rebate

A 50% reimbursement for up to \$2,500 of actual costs associated with the replacement of existing awnings, lighting, and/or signage or installation of new signage or retractable cloth awnings and canopies



Design Guidelines

- The Historic Review Board's guidelines may be found at _____.
- Design guidelines from the City of Michigan City's Planning Department are located at _____.
- Elston Grove design guidelines may be found at www.emichigancity.com/cityhall/departments/planning/pdf/Elston_Grove_Historic_District.pdf.
- Information about the Michigan City Redevelopment Commission may be found at www.emichigancity.com/cityhall/boards/redevelopment/index.htm.

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info@mcmainstreet.com

Website: www.mcmainstreet.com