



CITY OF ROCK HILL FAÇADE REHABILITATION GRANT PROGRAM

Historic Preservation of Commercial Structures

The City of Rock Hill (The City) Façade Rehabilitation Grant Program is designed to improve the appearance of historic buildings, stimulate private investment in these structures, and make the Main Streets of Old Town more attractive to business activity. The program makes available grants to rehabilitate or restore the facades of qualifying historic structures with a commercial use. Owners may receive up to 25% of the cost of façade renovations not to exceed \$15,000. Corner buildings or buildings with rear facades are eligible to apply for up to 25% of the cost of the additional renovations not to exceed \$10,000 to rehabilitate or restore qualifying additional facades on a first come first serve basis. For buildings or properties that request funding for improvements that will exceed the outlined guidelines the Rock Hill City Council may, at its sole discretion, appropriate additional funding on a case by case basis.

Selection Criteria

- The structure must be within the boundaries of the Main Streets of Old Town (bound by Dave Lyle Blvd., Black St., Oakland Ave., White St.). Priority will be given to properties on Caldwell Street and key properties on Main Street and White Street which is where private investment is currently focused, and which did not receive façade grants when Main Street was re-opened in the 1990's.
- The structure must be at least 40 years old.
- Façade grant renovation can be used on an exterior portion of the building that is visible to the public. This can include the front, back and sides of the building. **Façade grant money may not be used for interior renovations or roof repairs.**

Owner's Requirements

- Agree to the removal and replacement of any non-conforming signs on the structure.
- Grant the City a 10-year easement on the façade.
- Façade design must be approved by a Review Committee and fit in with the Main Streets of Old Town's overall design concept.

Guidelines

- Façade grant renovation can be used on an exterior portion of the building that is visible to the public.
- Grant applications shall be reviewed by a Review Committee comprised of the Downtown Development Manager, a representative appointed by the Downtown Board, a representative appointed by The Old Town Round Table, a representative appointed by the Rock Hill Economic Development Corporation, and a staff person from the Development Services Department.
- The proposed design and renovation work must be approved by the City of Rock Hill (including the Board of Historic Review, if the property is part of a designated historic district) before work commences and will be subject to review and approval by the appropriate City of Rock Hill Departments during the renovation process.