

Business Park Grant Improvement Program

The Business Park Grant Improvement Program has been established by the Community Development Authority (CDA) to stimulate exterior building and site improvements within the context of the Muskego Business Park as administered by the Community Development Authority (CDA). Grant resources should produce visible changes to buildings and sites since funding sources are limited. Priority will be given to projects demonstrating the most substantial impact on building and site aesthetics. Businesses that meet the eligibility requirements outlined below may receive matching grants up to \$500.

The program is instituted to encourage urban design excellence to enhance the character of the Muskego Business Park and is one of the many new implementation devices that the CDA has established as part of the new Redevelopment District #3 Plan for the Park. Previous implementation measures by the CDA have recently included new entryway and street signage.

Timing

This program is open from January 1, 2010 – September 30, 2010. An applicant must make an application before the last date listed herein. Only \$20,000 is earmarked for this program at this time so acting fast is encouraged.

Eligibility

Any business owner or landowner within the boundaries of the Muskego Business Park. The petitioner will have already had to have made the improvements in order to be eligible for the grant. Consultation with City staff before making improvements, to determine if such improvements are considered grant eligible, is highly recommended.

Eligible Activities

As stated previously, proposed grant applications should be for projects that have produced noticeable visual improvements to a property.

Buildings

- A. Design improvements made to front, rear or side building elevations, (priority will be given to front facades or those facing the public) including the following:
 - Modernizing of overall building materials and structure
 - Addition of new building materials
 - Adaptation of new and innovative architectural elements to a structure
 - Re-Painting
- B. Construction of new buildings.
- C. Structural additions to existing buildings.
- D. Building demolition in cooperation with a re-build
- E. Design fees on completed projects.

Sites

- A. New signage
- B. Updated and/or additional landscaping and lighting
- C. Screening devices for outdoor storage or refuse containers
- D. Parking Lot redesign or updates

Ineligible Applicants

Any business owner or landowner that still has outstanding Property Maintenance Code violations.

Program Funding

The program allows a 50% matching grant or a grant of up to \$500, whichever is less. All grant funds are administered by the CDA and the grant runs on first come, first serve basis (As mentioned, only \$20,000 is currently earmarked for this program at this time).

Application Process

- A. After completion of improvements, an applicant shall submit one copy of the construction invoices required to complete the work along with a narrative letter describing what tasks were completed and how the business property is now visually better because of the improvements.
- B. Community Development staff will bring request to next available CDA meeting (usually meet the third Tuesday of every month) to review the request.
- C. Petitioner should attend meeting in the event of questions and CDA will approve or deny request (CDA has right to approve a request with conditions if need be OR to stipulate a lesser amount of grant money awarded if a request isn't deemed adequately complete for some reason).
- D. Upon approval, Community Development staff will start the process for the City's Finance Department to disburse the approved grant amount to the appellant (usually takes 1-2 weeks following approvals).

Contact Information

Contact Jeff Muenkel (jmuenkel@ci.muskego.wi.us) or Adam Trzebiatowski (atrzebiatowski@ci.muskego.wi.us) for more information or to schedule a preliminary meeting to go over improvement ideas at (262) 679-4136.



Don't forget that this program is available for a limited time and has a cap on the amount of grants available!!!