



APPLICATIONS DUE
SEPTEMBER 9, 2016
5:00PM

The appearance of every town is largely determined by the condition of its buildings. Because this appearance also forms the basis of the public's overall impression, the upgrade and preservation of its buildings is crucial to the continued prosperity of Clover. The Town of Clover, Greater Clover Chamber of Commerce, and the Clover Economic Development Board would like to encourage all commercial property owners to participate in this program. The Clover Chamber of Commerce manages the Main Street Makeover Grant program for the Town of Clover.

PURPOSE

Provide financial assistance to property and/or business owners to promote small improvements to a building's appearance so as to improve the overall appearance, quality and vitality of Clover's Main Street and commercial areas.

ELIGIBILITY

Any tenant or property owner of commercial, for-profit property in Clover is eligible. Special consideration will be given to commercial properties with businesses that have been open less than 3 years. Buildings with commercial occupancy on the ground floor, and residential or offices above the main floor are eligible.

Only one application per property will be accepted. Properties are only eligible to receive this grant every three (3) years. Properties are not eligible for this grant and the Town of Clover Façade Grant during the same grant year.

Non-conforming structures are eligible provided that the proposed project remedies the non-conformity. All real property taxes must be paid in full (proof required).

GUIDELINES

Improvements must conform to the Town of Clover's zoning ordinance, Historic and Corridor Overlay District requirements, all state building codes and the Town's business license ordinance. As appropriate, the work may be required to be performed by a licensed contractor.

Grant funds may only be used to finance exterior physical property improvements. Qualifying projects are eligible for a grant of up to \$300 per property.

All work must be completed within 180 days from approval date. One extension may be granted by the Town Administrator for extenuating circumstances. There is no carry-over of funding and all projects must be completed by June 30 to receive reimbursement.

The program does not reimburse for any work performed prior to application approval and agreement signing.

Plans must be consistent with and visibly improve the original or historic character of the building. Projects that do not meet this standard will not be funded. Suggested improvements include: painting,

signage, awnings, doors, windows, lighting, landscaping and restoring the original materials and finish. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation shall be followed on façade improvements of historical buildings.

The Town of Clover, Chamber of Commerce, and Clover Economic Development Board will not be parties to negotiations between the applicant and any contractor(s) employed by the applicant.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicant completes application which shall include the following:

- Design plan with sketches, color and material samples, and/or plant selections;
- "Before" pictures – printed copies and digital copy submitted by email to andrea@cloverchamber.org or on a CD attached to the application.

The Grant Advisory Board, comprised of representatives from the Town of Clover, Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Board, review the applications and decide projects which will be funded. Factors considered in the selection of projects include the location of the property, the quality of the proposed project, the visual impact of the project on the street and in the community, and the ratio of private investment to public investment.

The applicant will be notified that the project has been accepted as outlined, accepted with described conditions and/or changes, or rejected.

Any deviation from the approved budget and plan must be reviewed and approved by the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board reserves the right to deny payment if completed work is inconsistent with the contents of the original application or approved amendments.

An agreement between the applicant and the Town of Clover must be signed prior to beginning any work for which the applicant wants reimbursement. The program does not reimburse for any work performed prior to application approval and agreement signing.

REIMBURSEMENT PROCESS

Upon project completion, copies of paid invoices and two-sided cancelled check copies must be submitted along with the Reimbursement Request. The work will be inspected and the statements reviewed. Work must be done in accordance with the signed agreement for reimbursement to occur.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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