



Program Requirements

Purpose

To revitalize vacant commercial spaces by supporting entrepreneurs, artists, and small businesses, including nonprofits, in launching vibrant, short- or long-term uses that enhance street-level activity, strengthen neighborhood identity, and promote economic opportunity.

Program Goals

- Revitalize underutilized commercial corridors
- Support small businesses, creative entrepreneurs, and community organizations
- Encourage diverse, inclusive, and locally rooted uses
- Improve neighborhood safety and aesthetics through active uses
- Bridge gaps between landlords and tenants
- Assist businesses and property owners that were negatively affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic

Program Design

- **Maximum Grant:** one (1) \$25,000 reimbursable grant per individual commercial storefront
- **Matching Requirement:** To be negotiated with applicant depending on project scope
- **Eligible Uses of Funds:**
 - Interior improvements and whiteboxing (lighting, plumbing, code compliance, etc.)
 - Exterior improvements (signage, painting, window display activation, etc.)
 - Equipment or furniture for the space
 - Rent subsidies (up to 6 months) – not eligible as a standalone request
 - Professional services (e.g., design, marketing, legal) directly related to the improvements or occupancy of the commercial storefront. No more than \$1,500.00 of the total grant can be used toward professional services.
- **Eligible Applicants:**
 - Small businesses (under 50 employees)
 - Start-ups with a viable business plan
 - Local artists or collectives
 - Nonprofits or social enterprises
 - Pop-up vendors or market organizers
 - Priority given to BIPOC-, immigrant-, and women-owned organizations
 - National chains and franchises are ineligible
- **Eligible Spaces:**
 - Vacant commercial storefronts
 - Located in designated target zones or priority corridors
 - Ground-floor spaces with public street access
 - Spaces that have been vacant for at least 6 months
 - Spaces that are located in Qualified Census Tracts

Vibrant Use Criteria

Applicants should propose uses that bring foot traffic and community engagement, such as:

- Retail or maker spaces
- Cafes or small-scale food businesses
- Art galleries or performance spaces
- Shared pop-up markets
- Community resource hubs or incubators
- Community service offices

Application Requirements

- Business or project plan
- Budget and funding needs
- Timeline for opening
- Proof of site control (LOI, lease, etc.) or landlord collaboration
- Documentation of the COVID-19 Pandemic's negative impact on your business and/or property
- Equity and community impact narrative, such as economic impact or job creation

Ongoing Support Provided by the City

If awarded funding through this program, ongoing support including but not limited includes window decals for whiteboxed spaces, online map and marketing materials showing whiteboxed spaces and who to contact for leasing/purchase, online map and marketing materials for new businesses moving into spaces, and ongoing business education sessions for long-term success.

Timeline

- Application Opens: September 22, 2025
- Info Sessions: Throughout October 2025
- Round 1 Application Deadline: October 31, 2025
Email applications to planning@cityofeuclid.com
- Award Notifications: November 2025
- Activation Period: December 2025–March 2026 (or longer for permanent uses)

Attachments Checklist

- ☐ Project Budget
- ☐ Business/Project Plan or Summary
- ☐ Proof of Site Control (or explanation)
- ☐ Photos of space (interior and exterior)
- ☐ Statement on how the COVID-19 Pandemic impacted attracting tenants (if you are the property owner) or your business (if you are a small business applicant)
- ☐ Equity & Community Impact Statement (optional but encouraged)



Grant Application

Applicant Information

Name of Business/Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

Business Type: ☐ For-Profit ☐ Nonprofit ☐ Artist/Collective

Minority/Women/Veteran-Owned? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Prefer not to say

Storefront Information

Proposed Address of Storefront: _____

Current Status: ☐ Lease Signed ☐ Letter of Intent ☐ In Negotiation ☐ Not Yet Identified

How long has this space been vacant? _____

Do you have permission from the property owner to submit this application?

☐ Yes, I am a tenant or buying the property (please attach LOI or letter of support)

☐ Yes, I am the property owner

☐ No (explain your plan to secure it)

Project Proposal

What will you do in the space? Describe your concept and how it will activate the space.

Who will this serve? Explain your audience, community benefit, and inclusion goals.

When will you be ready to launch?

- ☐ Within 1 month
- ☐ 2–3 months
- ☐ Other (explain)

Budget + Use of Funds

Total Estimated Project Cost: _____

Grant Amount Requested: _____

Match to be Provided: _____ Match Source: _____

- ☐ Rent Subsidy
- ☐ Buildout / Tenant Improvements
- ☐ Equipment
- ☐ Services (Design, Marketing, etc.)
- ☐ Other: _____

Attach budget breakdown and any supporting estimates.

By submitting this application and attachments, I attest that I have read and understand the Program Requirements and that the information provided herein is accurate and current to the best of my knowledge. I further understand that any willful misrepresentation or submission of false information in this application or any of the attachments thereto may result in denial of my application, repayment of funds received, and/or prosecution under Euclid Codified Ordinance 501.10.

Signature

Date

Printed Name