

Content for blog article for <https://waterfordboro.net/news/>

Waterford Borough opens another cycle of grant programs aimed at improving the downtown

*With funding available for property and business owners
for façade, interior renovation, structural and sidewalk projects*

Waterford Borough is opening a fourth round of Façade Improvement Grants, as well as second rounds of the Sidewalk Grant and the Interior/Structural Improvement Grant programs. Funding for these grant programs comes from a Mission Main Street Grant awarded to the borough in 2019 from the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA).

Commercial buildings within the designated downtown boundary, which is defined for the purpose of these grant programs as the center line of Walnut Street east to the center line of Cherry Street from the south borough line north to the center line of 5th Street, are eligible for these grant funds. Property owners, as well as business owners who lease space in the downtown, are encouraged to apply for funding.

All grants will be made on a 50/50 matching basis. Waterford Borough will provide up to 50% of the project cost as a grant with the remaining 50% of the cost being the property/business owner's responsibility.

The deadline for applicants to apply is July 16, 2021.

The borough has high hopes for the Interior/Structural Improvement Grant Program, which is intended to support projects that rehabilitate, restore, or preserve historic resources in the downtown in order to enhance the vibrancy of the central business district. Specific examples of fundable project work include concrete (excludes sidewalk replacement/repair), masonry, structural metal restoration or replacement, architectural woodwork and millwork, roofing, flashing, waterproofing, insulation, door and window repair and restoration, plumbing, fire protection systems, heating and cooling, electrical systems, and accessibility improvements. Priority will be given to projects utilizing proper preservation techniques and materials.

Grant guidelines and applications are available through the borough's office. Applicants with questions regarding the application or the eligibility of a project are encouraged to contact Waterford Borough Secretary Stacy Mattson at (814) 796-4709.

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