

STOREFRONT REDESIGN: WEST END

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Storefront Redesign program supports the health and strength of neighborhood commercial districts and neighborhood-serving businesses of the West End commercial district through education, technical assistance and matching grants for exterior commercial façade improvements.

DESIGN CONSULTATION

To be eligible for a grant, each applicant will first participate in a Design Consultation session with design professionals and Department of City Planning staff to gain specific recommendations for design changes that address business challenges and fit the applicant's budget. A Design Concept will be provided to the applicant that will be used to guide the grant application process.

ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS

- Architectural and design fees (up to 10% of the total project budget)
- Signage or awnings
- Lighting
- Exterior painting and brickwork
- Window or door replacement
- Other exterior facing improvements in need of repair or code compliance

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Applicants may be property owners and/or business tenants of for-profit commercial buildings with property owner permission.
- Storefronts located along or near Ralph David Abernathy Boulevard between Lee St. and Lawton St. See Map on other side.
- Projects must be rehabilitating an existing façade visible from the street.

MINI GRANT

The Mini Grant Program targets smaller scale "a la carte" improvements with a maximum reimbursement grant amount of \$2500 and a 10% applicant contribution. The Mini-Grant will provide a quicker process for applicants looking to make a smaller improvement rather than undergo a full renovation project.

PROJECT GRANT

The full Project Grant Program provides a matching rebate up to \$10,000 per storefront for approved commercial façade improvements. The reimbursement payment will be made to the applicant after the project is completed. The total project budget for eligible improvements must be a minimum of \$5,000 to qualify. The project scope must be approved prior to construction and will be subject to federal funding requirements regarding historic preservation, environmental clearance, and fair wage rates for labor. The funding for this grant is from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development through the Community Development Block Grant program.

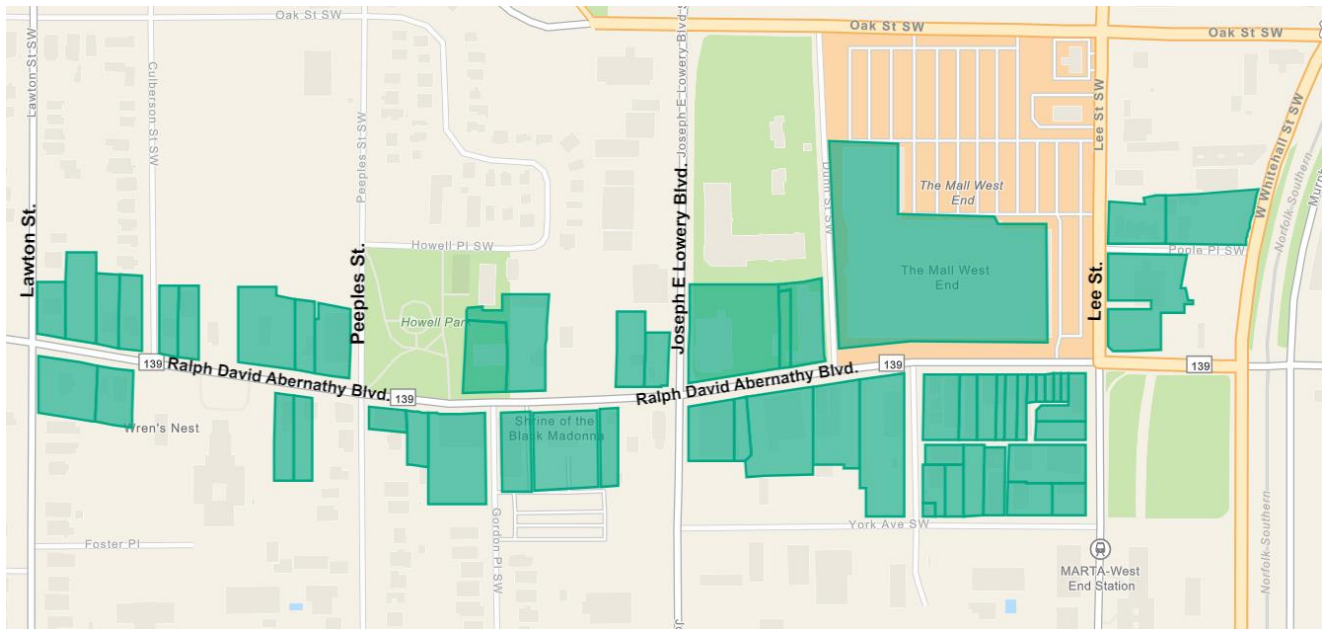
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Grant applications will be evaluated for 1) community impact, 2) historic preservation and 3) design impact.
- Grants will not be awarded for improvements already completed, underway, or started prior to approval. Reimbursements will be made after work is completed and inspected.
- Proposed improvements must align with Historic Preservation & Design Guidelines and comply with all permit requirements.
- The project scope, including the matching contribution, must be limited to external building improvements.



TARGET AREA*

The 2019 program year will focus on the West End with eligible commercial properties along and near the Ralph David Abernathy Blvd. commercial corridor between Lee Street and Lawton Street.



*Parcels are identified based on a for-profit commercial use and eligibility is subject to program guidelines.

PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCESS & TIMELINE

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| DECEMBER 12 | Presentation, Info Session Registration opens for Design Consultations |
| JANUARY 20 | Registration closes for Design Consultation Sessions |
| JANUARY 26-31 | Design Consultations |
| MARCH 1 | Design Concepts Completed |
| APRIL 15 | Grant Application Deadline |
| APRIL 30 | Conditional Grant Awards |
| MAY | Final Scope Meeting Construction Estimates Federal Funding Approval* Pre-Construction Meeting Grant Agreement |
| JUNE - AUGUST | Construction Period |
| SEPTEMBER 1 | Deadline for Project Completion |

All dates subject to change. *Federal funding review pertains to Project Grants only

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