

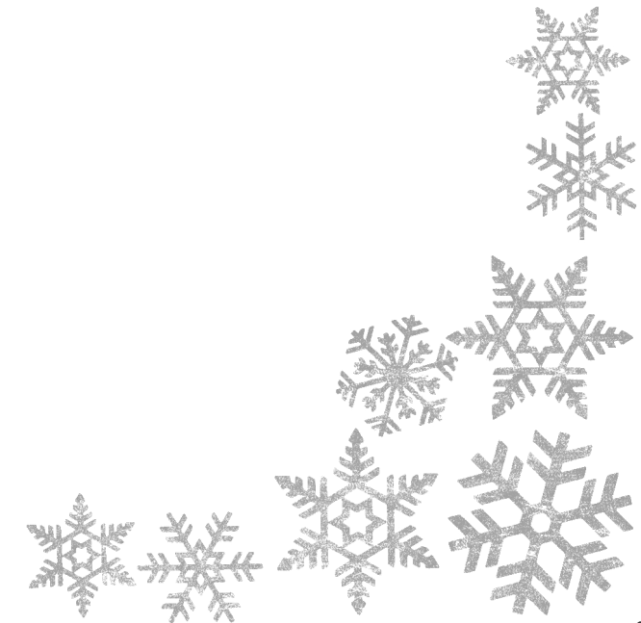
Economic Development



Commercial Beautification & Improvement Grant



Information Session
Office of Economic Development
Clayton County Board of Commissioners
12/08/23



Welcome

The Clayton County Office of Economic Development is the leading office for *business attraction, expansion, retention, project management, site selector engagement, prospect interest and small business inquiries* for Clayton County, GA.



Grant Introduction

The Clayton County Office of Economic Development received funding through the recently passed American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021.

The ARPA funds received will be able to make a significant impact in the Clayton County Community.

Using the funds by providing grants will improve the quality of life for Clayton County residents and businesses, to cover immediate needs and to create a long-term investment for the county's future.



Commercial Beautification & Improvement Grant Information Session

Where the World Lands
and Opportunities
Take Off



Who? What? When? Where? How?



Overview

The Office of Economic Development has allocated ARPA funds to be issued in grants for commercial properties (owners) within Clayton County.

The purpose of this grant is to assist properties with exterior repairs, enhancements and improvements.

Eligible applicants may apply for grants up to \$75,000.



Goals

- Promote a consistently high-quality commercial environment that will be attractive to residents and visitors
- Promote retail to service activities and increase tenant occupancy within our shopping centers
- Create an attractive environment where residents, visitors and business owners gain a sense of civic pride
- Promoting additional improvements by the participants, and neighboring properties



Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Property must be zoned for commercial i.e. general business, mixed use, office etc.
- Applicants must be in good standing with Clayton County on all tax property taxes, code violations, fees
- Buildings and shopping centers must have 50% or greater occupancy
- Must complete all scope of work
- Properties 75,000 SF or less
- Property must **NOT** be under contract, foreclosure, or for sale
- Properties that **DO NOT QUALIFY:** package stores, adult entertainment shops, gambling activities, gas stations, financial institutions, gun/weapon shops, religious institutions or public agencies



What You Need To Apply...

Along with answering questions on the application:

- A description of the proposed improvement
- Current photographs of the current facade/property to be improved
- Proof of ownership (such as deed or tax records)
- Proposed project timeline
- Project Budget
- Quotes/estimates for the proposed improvements supplied to the applicant by the contractor (minimum of two quotes for each improvement)
- List of existing tenants with lease expiration dates
- Match Requirements

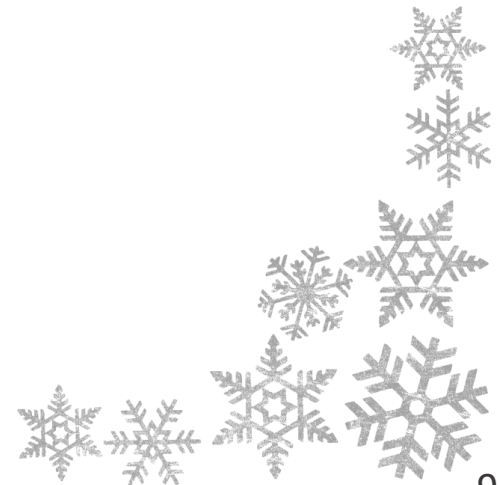
Invoices and proof of payment for property improvements within the last 3 years



Eligible Usage of Funds

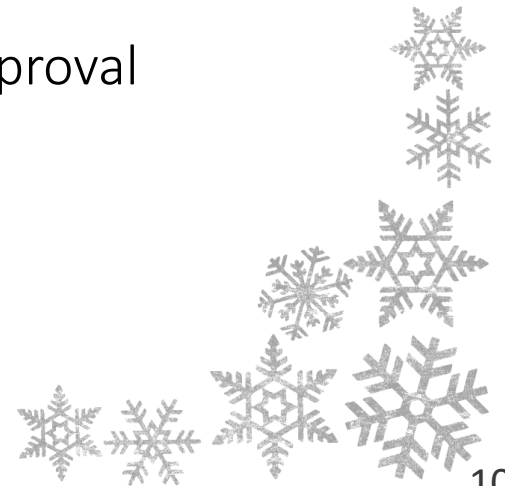
Improvements should visually enhance the exterior of the subject property and meet the following guidelines:

- Painting, including an exterior mural
- Building surface repairs i.e. brick, siding, limestone, stucco etc.
- Landscaping i.e. ornamental, decorative planters, flowerbeds etc.
- Exterior Lighting/LED lighting
- Windows, doors, framing, etc.
- Signage, canopies, awnings, etc.
- Gates, fencing etc.
- Cosmetic repairs



Ineligible Usage of Funds

- Interior improvements
- Architectural design and planning services
- Operations and inventory
- HVAC, plumbing, and other system repair
- Roof Repair
- Construction Permit Fees
- Commercial improvements expenses that were incurred prior to grant approval notification



Grant Application Process

Applications will be received by the Clayton County Office of Economic Development until March 2, 2024.

The completed applications will be reviewed by the Clayton County Beautification Committee.

The property owner will need to sign the articles of agreement for the county.

The property owner/applicant will submit invoices and photos of the projects to the Clayton County Office of Economic Development Grant Administrator. Checks will be made payable directly to contractors.

Projects will be need to be completed by November 31, 2024.



Funding Allocation

Eligible commercial property owners may apply for grants up to \$75,000 that can be used for exterior improvements to their commercial property.

A match is required for eligibility.

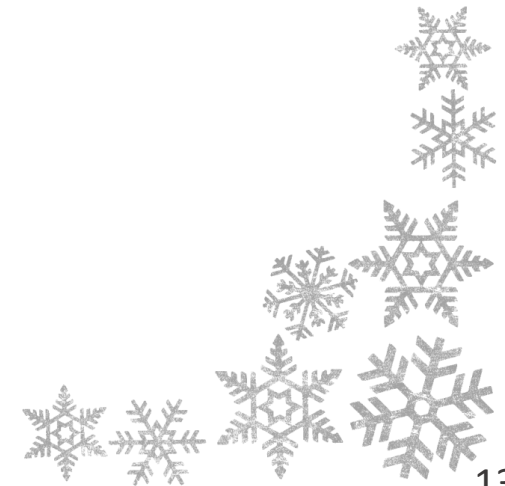
The match must be equal to or greater than 25% of the funds requested.

The match may be in the form of proof of exterior improvements within the last 3 years or additional repairs outside of the funds requested.



Application Scoring Criteria

- If the overall proposal advances the goals of improving the building's appearance
- The original condition of the building and the need for the proposed change
- The impact of the project on the street and in the neighborhood
- Owner-occupied commercial buildings will be given preference in this application
- The quality of the proposed work
- The project timeline
- Duration of ownership
- Clayton County recommended vendors/contractors



Application Scoring Criteria

- Contractors for the construction
Clayton County will not require property owners to select local contractors for the Commercial Beautification and Improvement Grant Program, but property owners are encouraged to select local Clayton County based contractors.

A list of Clayton County based contractors can be found at Clayton County Central Services and Clayton County Chamber of Commerce. Clayton County shall have no liability for workmanship, design, or construction related to the project receiving grant funds under this program.

Clayton County Central Services SLBE/MWBE List

[SLBE-MWBE MASTER VENDOR LIST 3-08-23.xlsx \(claytoncountyga.gov\)](#)

Clayton County Water Authority Certified SLBE List

[8 20 23 CCWA-LOS-Certified-SLBE.pdf](#)

Clayton County Chamber of Commerce Business Directory:

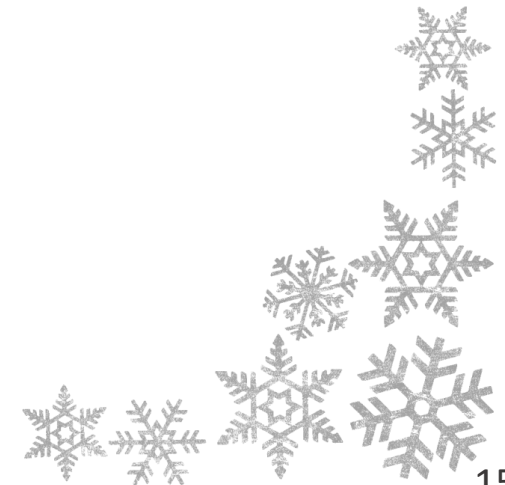
<https://www.claytonchamber.org/list/>



Grant Portal

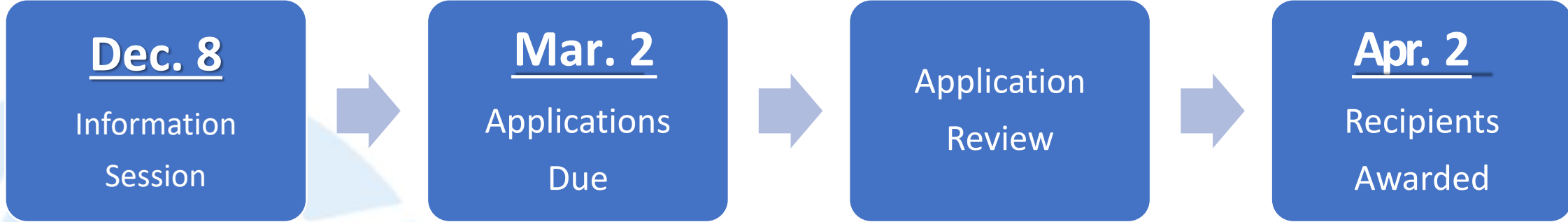
Where the World Lands
and **Opportunities**
Take Off

businessgrants.claytoncountyga.gov



Grant Timeline

Key dates to remember



Contact

Where the World Lands
and Opportunities
Take Off

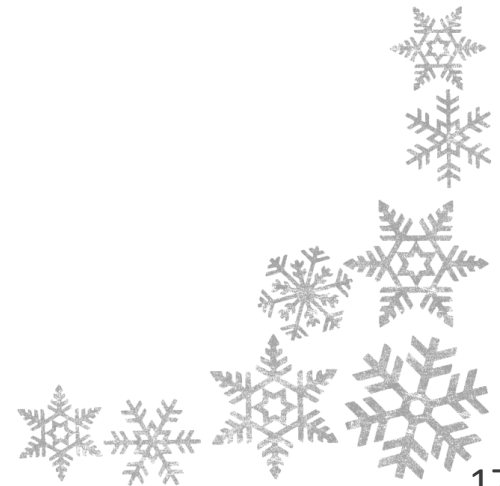
Information / Grant Helpline

Apply online or call for assistance

Monday – Friday | 9 AM – 5 PM

(855) CLAYBIZ

(855) 252 9249





Examples



COMMERCIAL
BEAUTIFICATION AND IMPROVEMENT GRANT

CLAYTON COUNTY



Where the World Lands
and Opportunities
Take Off



Facade Grant
-
Preserve and rehabilitate
your space

up to \$75K

Grants for eligible properties

Clayton County is proud to announce its Commercial Beautification and Improvement Grant. The goal of this grant is to assist commercial property and shopping center owners with exterior repairs, enhancements and improvements.

Apply Now

Apply online or call for assistance.
M - F; 9 am - 5 pm

businessgrants.claytoncountyga.gov

Information/Grant Helpline
(855) CLAYBIZ
(855) 2529249

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- ✔ Properties must be zoned for commercial use
- ✔ Must not be under contract, foreclosure or sale
- ✔ Good standing with all taxes, codes and/or fees
- ✔ Properties must **NOT** be or operate package stores, adult entertainment, gambling, gas stations, financial institutions, gun/weapon shops, religious or public agencies.
- ✔ Must complete all scope of work
- ✔ 75,000 SF or less with 50% occupancy or greater

