**A logo of a house with a balcony

Description automatically generated with low confidence**

**2023 PITCH YOUR PORCH APPLICATION**

**GOAL:**

The Pitch Your Porch (PYP) Grant Program is designed to assist property and business owners in rehabilitating the commercial facades of their buildings for the purpose of creating a positive visual impact throughout the downtown districts of Morris County Communities. Fund focus is geared toward restaurants, hospitality, and downtown businesses that support shopping districts to complement other community development efforts. Applicants will be asked to then pitch their ideas to a panel of judges on June 26th. The top 5 pitches will be awarded the non-matching grant. Judging criteria will be based on application strength and the live pitch.

Our goal is simple. We want to provide you with the resources needed to improve the exterior appearance of your business.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

In order to be eligible for the PYP Program, businesses must have:

* A physical presence and must be registered and licensed pursuant to current Kansas Business Guidelines.
* All businesses must be current on both County and State Tax liabilities and currently open to the public.
* Must be a for-profit entity.

**ELIGBLE IMPROVEMENT EXAMPLES:**

* Cleaning, preparation, and painting of exterior walls and trim.
* Cleaning and/or re-pointing of brick, and other masonry.
* Installation of siding materials.
* Outdoor dining fencing.
* Trash can fencing.
* Signage.
* Replacement of deteriorated windows, doors, and or/framing visible from the street.
* Removal and/or installation of awnings, canopies, or shutters.
* Accent lighting.
* Work on cornices, gutters, and down spouts.
  + **ALL IMPROVEMENTS MUST BE VISABLE FROM STREET VIEW.**

**INELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENT EXAMPLES:**

* Improvements not visible to public streets and sidewalks.
* Interior improvements.
* Non-façade improvements such as roofs, structural foundations, billboards, security systems, nonpermanent fixtures, parking lots, security bars, interior window coverings.
* Items related to business operations.
  + (i.e., inventory, business equipment, etc.)
* New construction.
* Property acquisition.
* Expansion of building area.
* Conversion of use.
* Refinance of existing debt.
* Payment of delinquent taxes.

**AWARDS:**

A total of $3,000 is available to be awarded to 5 businesses. Grants will be awarded up to $3,000 per business (the maximum amount a single business can receive). Owners/tenants can spend more than $3,000 on a project, but the grant will only match $3,000. Interested owners/tenants must fill out an application prior to June 16th, 2023, deadline. Applications will be considered by the PYP Grant Review Committee to determine eligibility for the PYP Competition and to assure, through an equitable process, that the application meets all applicable design guidelines. Applicants will also be required to adhere to all requirements as prescribed by the City and County codes in which the business is located. All permits must be obtained prior to any building improvements as required by the County/Municipality. The completed work must adhere to the final design plans agreed to with the PYP Grant Committee to ensure final payment. Applicants can use visual aids, Power Point presentations, etc. during the pitch competition to strengthen their opportunity to be awarded the grant. There is no match required by the awardees for the grant.

**AWARD GUIDELINES:**

* All improvements must meet local, state, and federal codes.
* Funds will **NOT** be deposited into businesses accounts. The businesses must send invoices to the GMDC Director to be paid.
* Businesses can utilize as many vendors as they like as long as they stay within the $3,000 awarded.
* Businesses will have up to 1 year from the competition to use the awarded funds.

**APPLICATION:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Business Name: | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| Business Name or Building Name: | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| Physical Address: | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| City: Click or tap here to enter text. | | State: Click or tap here to enter text. | Zip: Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Email: | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| Phone #: | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| Type of Business: | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| Date Business Opened: | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| Are you the Property Owner (yes or no): | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| What does your business do to give back to your respective community? (Please write a 3-5 sentence response) | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| Please describe a detailed plan of your upgrade for your porch and explain how this will make it more appealing | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| Estimates if obtained & Quotes/Pricing (Flowers, planters, benches, etc.) It is encouraged that local venders be used when possible. | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| Is your business planning on working with a local contractor. If so, list who (or purchasing local if items/products/services are available): | Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| Is this a current or ongoing project? | Timeline for completion:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Visual impact on Community Appearance:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Ability to Increase Traffic (sales) Through Improvement:  Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| **\*\*AS PART OF THE APPLICATION YOU MUST SEND A CURRENT PICTURE OF YOUR “FRONT PORCH” ON VENTUREDASH. (An invitation will be sent your email once your application is approved.)** | | | |