



# Downtown Façade Improvement Program

Contact: Almont DDA  
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Almont Downtown Development Authority  
Façade Improvement Program

## Program Summary

The Façade Improvement Program is designed to encourage economic investment and revitalization to the commercial buildings within the DDA district. This program promotes physical improvements to the commercial facades visible from the public right-of-way. It is the intent of the program to strengthen the economic vitality of downtown Almont by improving the exterior physical appearances of buildings while at the same time preserving and promoting the historical character and integrity of the buildings within the district.

Applicants for the Façade Improvement funding are encouraged to review the complete program description for the area of funding for which they are applying. All applicants must meet with the DDA Director prior to grant application submittals.

### **General Requirements:**

- Properties must be located within the legal boundaries of the DDA District. They must be used for retail, commercial or professional purposes.
- Building owners or tenants are eligible.
- All required permits must be pursued, all property taxes and Village accounts current and all improvements are subject to the reviews and approvals required by village code and ordinances.
- Proof of payment and pictures of completed works must be submitted with the application.
- All grants are 50/50 matching grants with the exception of design assistance grants.
- The maximum grant amount awarded in total will be \$5,000 for the first right-of-way façade rehabilitated and up to an additional \$5,000 if more than one right of way façade is renovated.

### **Paint Grants:**

- Grant amounts: \$250-\$1,000 (up to \$2,000 if multiple right-of-way sides were painted)
- Grants are awarded per building and are available one time, every 10 years, or at the discretion of the DDA Board of Directors.
- Paint colors will be negotiated with the owner/tenant.

### **Sign Grants:**

- Grant amounts: \$250-\$500 (up to \$1,000 if multiple right-of-way signs were renovated/purchased)
- Grants are awarded per building owner/tenant.
- Funding for no more than two new outdoor signs or renovation of existing signs.

**Awning Grants:**

- Grant amounts: \$250-\$1,500 (up to \$3,000 if multiple awnings purchased.)
- Grants are awarded per building and are available one time, every 10 years, or at the discretion of the DDA Board of Directors.
- Projects can include either single building or multiple street level awnings across second story windows.

**Landscaping Grants:**

- Grant amounts: \$250-\$500 (up to \$1,000 if multiple right-of-way sides were landscaped)
- Grants are awarded per building and are available one time, every 10 years, or at the discretion of the DDA Board of Directors.
- Landscaping grants are for a collection of improvements strategically arranged to visually enhance any side visible from the public right-of-way.

**Design Assistance:**

- Grant amounts cover 80% of design services up to \$800.
- Grants are awarded per building and are available one time, every 10 years, or at the discretion of the DDA Board of Directors.
- Design Assistance grants are to provide funding for architectural design consulting services for façade renovations.

**Façade Renovation Grants:**

- Grant Amounts: \$500-\$5,000 (with an additional \$500-\$5,000 if multiple rights-of-way renovated)
- Grants awarded per building owner/ tenant and are available once every 10 years, or at the discretion of the DDA Board of Directors.
- Only capital improvements or repairs on items that have a useful life of at least 10 years will be considered.

**Limits:**

- Only facades abutting public right-of-way are eligible. This includes side and rear facades.
- It is the responsibility of the grant applicant to notify the DDA of the completion of the project for the processing of payment. Proof of payment and photographs of improvements are also required before payment will be processed.
- All elements of the items must be consistent with DDA plans and policies as well as Village codes and ordinances. This includes design, color, style and placement of these improvements.
- All fixtures paid for with Façade Improvement funds will remain with the building should the tenant (business owner) or building ownership change hands.
- All grant awards are subject to available funding. Annual funding is limited. Application does not guarantee funding.
- The Almont DDA reserves the right to award grants it deems to be in the best interest of the Village of Almont, the DDA and the Façade Program.

Almont DDA Façade Improvement Program Application

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Grant Amount Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle One:** Business Owner      Tenant

**Address of Property Proposed for Improvement:**

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

This request is being made for: (Circle all that apply)

Paint   Signs   Awnings   Landscaping   Design Assistance   Façade Renovations

**Please Check One:**

- This is my first application for the Façade Improvement Program
- I have already received funding from the Almont DDA for façade assistance

Project Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grant Amount Awarded \_\_\_\_\_ Year Awarded \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Project Improvement Cost is:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To be Completed by the DDA

The project at \_\_\_\_\_ has been found to be:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Consistent** \_\_\_\_\_ **Inconsistent** with DDA plans.

It is therefore: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible \_\_\_\_\_ Ineligible for grant funding.

Determined by: \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Title	Date
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Total Amount to be granted: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date reimbursement made: \_\_\_\_\_