

2022

Norwich Building Tomorrow Foundation Curb Appeal Program

PURPOSE

The Friends of the Museum District Curb Appeal Grant Program (CAP) was created to encourage the revitalization of the district neighborhood by assisting property owners and residents with exterior improvements. Attractive building facades and properties support and encourage visitors to the newly enhanced Museum District.

PROGRAM

Grant funding is provided by a local foundation to assist property owners within the designated Museum District boundaries with payment for the cost of structural and cosmetic property improvements. Only exterior improvements will be considered. The program will be administered by the Friends of the Museum District Design Committee (hereby referred to as FOMDDC) under the Norwich Building Tomorrow Foundation. Recommendations for grant awards will be made by the FOMDDC in its sole discretion, with full approval being granted by the Norwich Building Tomorrow Foundation.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible properties must be located within a specific area within the Museum District. This area is defined as follows: Rexford Street (North Broad intersection to River Street), N. State Street and State Street (Rexford to Mitchell Street intersection) and Silver Street (Berry Street to Gold Street intersection only).



Residential property owners along with owners of commercial/mixed-use structures located within the area noted in red on the map are eligible to apply for funding. The property owner must apply for a project proposed by a tenant.

The program is intended to assist with projects that improve the exterior appearance of the property from the street. The scope of work must include improvement to one or more of the following:

- Architectural details (addition, repair and/or restoration)
- Exterior painting and/or power washing
- Doors, windows and shutters (addition, repair and/or restoration)
- Landscaping & Sidewalks
- Decorative entrance features (lighting, mailbox, house numbers, etc.)
- Aesthetic Fencing

The following are **not** eligible for grant funding:

- Improvements that damage the building
- Improvements that are inappropriate or incompatible with the historic context of the neighborhood
- Improvements on the interior of the property
- Installation of chain link fencing
- Roofing
- General Maintenance (ie. Driveway sealing, paving, etc.)
- Signage
- Improvements that cannot be completed within 6 months.

Whenever possible, applicants are strongly encouraged to use local contractors to complete all tasks associated with their property renovation. This will not only help garner support to continue this program, but more importantly, help boost our local economy.

GRANT DETAILS

If approved, the FOMDDC will provide a reimbursement grant to the applicant for up to seventy-five percent (75%) of project costs up to a maximum grant of \$18,000. For example, 75% of a \$10,000 project would be a \$7,500 grant or 75% of a \$25,000 project would result in a \$18,000 grant award. The property owner must use personal funds to cover the additional 25% of costs as well as any additional remaining project balance. All grant awards in excess of \$600 are subject to New York State tax and therefore property owners will receive a 1099 from The Norwich Building Tomorrow Foundation. The Foundation has allocated a total of \$150,000 for curb appeal (CAP) grants in 2022.

Only one grant may be awarded per applicant within a calendar year. No property may receive more than the maximum allowed grant award, as set forth within these guidelines, within a five-year period.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

A completed application form and accompanying project details must be submitted to CAP Grant Coordinator, Pegi LoPresti for review by the FOMDDC **prior to the start of any work.** The owner shall obtain all applicable building permits as required by the City of Norwich. Applicants are highly encouraged to obtain approvals prior to submitting their application for assistance. If approved, the project may commence and once completed, the applicant must submit a Curb Appeal (CAP) Grant Refund request along with invoices or other applicable information indicating the total cost and details of the project; before the reimbursement of grant funds will be allowed. Before and after photos of the building are highly encouraged and these photos will become the property of the Foundation and may be used for future promotional purposes of the program. Approved projects shall be completed within 6 months of approval, unless an extension is granted by the FOMDDC.

All questions related to the Curb Appeal Program (CAP) can be directed to Pegi LoPresti, CAP Coordinator at plopresti@hotmail.com. Phone: 607.226.0004.

Rev. 3.31.22