

What is the Storefront Revitalization Program?

The Storefront Revitalization Program encourages the preservation and beautification of the buildings in the Barnesville area business district. The Program consists of Storefront Grant awards and Storefront Improvement Loans.

The Barnesville business area includes businesses within the City limits, and surrounding business district.

By enhancing the visual appearance, we hope to create a more attractive, and inviting shopping environment.

What is the purpose of the Storefront Revitalization Program?

In the downtown area, the purpose of the Storefront Revitalization Program is to protect and enhance the unique architectural, visual and historical character of the original downtown. With the existing buildings the principle is to preserve, enhance and restore the original design. The principle for new construction is to preserve the unity of the scale, material, set back and roof lines of the existing downtown buildings.

In the outlying business corridors, the purpose of the program is to project an image of beauty and create an interest in stopping and spending time in the Barnesville area.

What are the eligible expenses?

With both the Storefront Grant awards and the Storefront Improvement Loans, the funds received can be used to do exterior appearance improvements such as new signage, awnings, doors, lighting, brick repair work, steps, windows and window frames, energy improvements (weather stripping), and repainting.

Storefront Grant Awards

25/75 Match Up To a Maximum of \$1,000

General Criteria

1. Grant Money is to be used for exterior storefront improvements only.
2. Applications for the Grant Awards are handled through the Barnesville Main Street Program Office. Along with the application will be a packet that includes some basic design suggestions.
3. The application must be submitted with a statement of work to be done, including projected costs, current photo, and signature of the building owner.
4. The project must be in accordance with the City, or Joint Powers Zoning and Building Codes.
5. Each project will be reviewed by the Main Street Director and the Design Committee to determine the extent to which the project will enhance the appearance of the building and the surrounding business district. The Design committee will then make a recommendation to the Main Street Board of Directors for a final decision.
6. Grant applications are reviewed on a first come, first served basis. Total grant money available is dependent on the annual budgeted funds.
7. Grant funds will be paid when the applicant has paid 75% of the projected costs. A copy of paid receipts must be submitted to the Main Street Program Director. This program is funded through the income raised in by the annual Membership Drive.
8. No repayment of the grant is required unless the building is sold within two years of receiving the Grant. A repayment

term is common in these programs to protect public investment in private improvements.

9. A storefront pertains to any entrance to a business building.
10. A business must be a copper, silver or gold member of Main Street to be eligible for these funds.

Storefront Improvement Loans

General Criteria

1. Loan proceeds are to be used for exterior store front improvement only.
2. Applicant needs to meet with the Main Street Program Coordinator to discuss eligibility, improvement plans, and program regulations.
3. The project must be in accordance with the City, or Joint Powers Zoning and Building Codes.
4. Applications are available at either Midwest Bank or Wells Fargo in Barnesville.
5. Applicant will meet with a lending officer at either Midwest Bank or Wells Fargo in Barnesville.
6. Applications will be considered based on each individual bank's standard loan criteria.
7. Maximum loan amount is \$7,000 with a repayment period not exceeding five years.
8. Interest on the loan will be based on each bank's standards and the individual applicant.
9. Upon loan closing, the applicant must sign a statement acknowledging that if the business is sold, the outstanding loan balance must be repaid in full within 30 days of sale