



Legislation Text

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HLC#21-003: Discussion on the Historic Mansfield Preservation Grant Program

In preparation for the Hotel/Motel Tax applications in July, Staff recommends that the Commission consider changes to the preservation grant program to complement the City Council's proposed economic incentive program for the historic downtown. The Council program will provide financial incentives to encourage targeted businesses to move to the buildings on the historic block downtown.

Although the incentive program will assist with necessary improvements to a building, it is not intended for a historic façade restoration. The Commission may want to revise the Historic Preservation Grant Program to focus on projects to improve the historic commercial downtown.

Our current preservation grant provides opportunities for the following:

- Owner-occupant residential uses may apply for a grant up to \$10,000 maximum with a half match (2/1 match)

In cases of financial hardship where a match is not possible, the applicant may request a waiver from the matching requirement for an owner-occupied residential property. Said waiver will only be approved by the City upon the recommendation of the Mansfield Historic Landmark Commission.

- Rental residential uses may apply for a grant up to \$5,000 maximum with a full match (1/1 match)
- A commercial use in an historic building fronting on Main Street or Broad Street may apply for a grant up to \$5,000 maximum with a full match (1/1 match)

Staff researched other cities' façade grant programs that are tailored to commercial building improvements. The findings are summarized in the attached table. Details will be discussed at the meeting.

Attachment:

Facade Grant Comparison Table