

Rockwood-West Gresham Storefront Improvement Grant

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GRDC Advisory Committee

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GRESHAM
REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Today's Purpose



- 1. Program Overview**
- 2. Outcomes and Considerations**
- 3. Grant Guidelines**
- 4. Eligible and Ineligible Improvements**
- 5. Funding**
- 6. Review and Procurement Process**
- 7. Timeline and Next Steps**
- 8. Discussion and Questions**

Program Overview

- ▶ The Rockwood-West Gresham Urban Renewal Area Storefront Improvement Grant Program (Storefront Grant) is administered by the Gresham Redevelopment Commission (GRDC).
- ▶ This program provides financial assistance to commercial property and business owners seeking to repair or update their storefront façade within the Rockwood-West Gresham Urban Renewal Area (URA).
- ▶ The intent is to support projects that enhance property values, improve safety perception, increase neighborhood vibrancy, and stimulate economic development.



Outcomes and Considerations

- ▶ Increase property value
- ▶ Grants awarded
- ▶ Leveraged investments
- ▶ Business compliance
- ▶ Business stability
- ▶ Safety
- ▶ Neighborhood vibrancy
- ▶ Buy local
- ▶ Diversity in contracting
- ▶ Sustainability

Grant Guidelines

Business Requirements:

- For-profit
- 50 or fewer employees
- Priority given to businesses actively serving customers

Eligible Applicants:

- Commercial property owners
- Businesses with authorization from property owner
- Must operate within URA boundaries

Ineligible Properties:

- Delinquent property taxes
- Liens
- Outstanding City of Gresham code violations
- Note: properties may become eligible once corrective actions are completed

Eligible Improvements

- ▶ Exterior painting
- ▶ Siding replacement
- ▶ Windows and door replacement
- ▶ New cornices, gutters, and downspouts
- ▶ Signs and graphics
- ▶ Exterior lighting
- ▶ Canopies and awnings (durable and high-quality materials only)
- ▶ Landscaping, fencing, bike racks, and interior window display lighting (if part of exterior work)
- ▶ ADA improvements

Ineligible Improvements

- ▶ Roofs
- ▶ Structural foundations
- ▶ Billboards
- ▶ Security systems
- ▶ Non-permanent fixtures
- ▶ Interior window coverings
- ▶ Personal property or equipment
- ▶ Security bars
- ▶ Razor/barbed wire fencing
- ▶ Paving
- ▶ Sidewalks
- ▶ Advertising or interior-only modifications

Funding

- 💰 Total Program Budget: \$200,000 (FY 2025-26)
- 🏢 Grant Reimbursement: Up to \$10,000 per business
- The total project cost needs to be at least \$2,000.
- The matching grant amount will be calculated at 50% of the total project cost.





Review & Procurement Process

- ▶ Application Submission - Applications are accepted year-round on a first-come, first-served basis.
- ▶ Application Review - GRDC staff evaluates eligibility and project scope.
- ▶ Site Visit - Staff meets with business/property owner on-site to review the proposed improvements, confirm eligibility, answer questions, and advise on the process needed to complete the work for reimbursement.
- ▶ Grant Agreement / Contract - Issued upon approval, detailing funding amount, terms, project scope, and bid proposal from contractor.
- ▶ All receipts must be submitted to GRDC staff within 120 days from the commencement of construction.

Timeline and Next Steps

Timeline:

- ▶ GRDCAC presentation - November 2025
- ▶ Present to the GRDC for consideration - December 2025
- ▶ Program launch - Early 2026

Next Steps:

- ▶ Finalize application and contract
- ▶ Promote
 - ▶ Translate
 - ▶ Marketing (website, social media, press release, mailers, partners)
- ▶ Program updates

Discussion & Questions



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Thank you!