



## City of Colusa California

### STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** January 17, 2023

**TO:** City of Colusa Mayor and Council Members

**FROM:** Fernanda Vanetta, Grant Writer through Jesse Cain, City Manager

#### **AGENDA ITEM:**

Subject: Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants Program – Development of a plan for the City of Colusa

**Recommendation:** Council to approve grant application parameters and take public comments on program outline.

#### **BACKGROUND ANALYSIS:**

The Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant Program, named in honor of the late preservation leader from Vermont, fosters economic development in rural communities through the rehabilitation of historic buildings in those communities. The program provides recipients (referred to as prime grantees) with a single grant that is then regranted in smaller amounts to individual projects (subgrants).

Prime grantees design and administer subgrant programs that support the economic development goals and needs in their chosen service area.

Prime grantees must determine the focus and criteria for the subgrant program they wish to administer and describe this program in the application. If successful, the recipient then develops their own application process and project selection criteria for choosing which buildings will receive subgrants. Prime grantees cannot use grant funds for their own properties or submit applications for individual buildings or pre-selected projects. The intent of this program is to provide funds that can be regranted to projects that have been selected through a locally administered competitive process after the prime grant is awarded.

The City of Colusa can apply for grant funds between \$200,000 to \$750,000. There is no match on behalf of the City as the Prime Grantee but subgrantees would be expected to have a cash match as part of the program. The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) would then be tasked with fully developing criteria and applications for each subgrantee. They would also be the selection committee for applicants.

Initially all buildings, residential or commercial, in the city limits would be eligible as long as they are a nationally recognized historical landmark or can become one.

Initial match parameters discussed for applicants are suggested as follows:

Application Amount	Match Percentage %
\$10,000 or under	5%
\$10,001 - \$49,999	10%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	20%
Over \$100,000	25%

Places currently listed as historically significant within the City of Colusa limits are as follows:

Name	Address	Year
Albery House	659 Jay Street	1874
Colusa Carnegie Library	260 Sixth Street	1906
Colusa County Courthouse	547 Market Street	1861
Colusa Grammar School	425 Webster Street	1918
Colusa IOOF Building	143-151 Fifth Street	1892
Colusa Union High School	745 10 <sup>th</sup> Street	1926
First Christian Church	725 Jay Street	1869
Green House	220 Sixth Street	1868
Old Chinatown District	700 Block of Main Street	1890
Our Lady of Lourdes Church	345 Oak Street	1880
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church	642 Fifth Street	1894

It is staff recommendation that the City of Colusa apply for \$500,000 to be run its own historical revitalization program.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** No budget impact to the City's General Funds. Grant would cover grant activities.

**ATTACHMENT: Paul Bruhn Program Fact Sheet**