



Board:	<u>Downtown Development Authority</u>
Agenda Date:	<u>August 18, 2026</u>
Presenter:	<u>Patricia West</u>

Staff Report

Agenda Item Title:

Façade Grant Program Revisions

Background:

DDA Façade Grant Subcommittee member Dan Becker and DDA Director Patricia West met on August 12 to review the Façade Grant Program in preparation for the next application cycle, scheduled to open September 1. Based on feedback received from the Michigan Municipal League and limited successful project outcomes in recent application cycles, revisions to the program are being considered to improve accessibility and effectiveness.

Proposed revisions include capping individual grant awards at \$5,000, eliminating the lien requirement, changing the required match from 50/50 to 25% applicant/75% DDA, and requiring grant funds to be disbursed on a reimbursement basis rather than allowing applicants to draw directly from the grant award.

Staff is currently working with legal counsel to review these proposed changes and confirm that they are appropriate and permissible prior to implementation.

Fiscal Effect:

Approximately \$22,000 is available for the Façade Grant Program through the end of the current fiscal year, March 31, 2027.

Supporting Documentation:

Draft of Proposed Façade Grant Program

Recommendation:

Motion to recommend approval to the Gladstone City Commission for the proposed revisions outlined in the Façade Grant Program, subject to review and approval by legal counsel.