



Board:	City Commission
Agenda Date:	September 28, 2026
Presenter:	Patricia West

Staff Report

Agenda Item Title:

Façade Grant Program Revisions

Background:

The Downtown Development Authority has completed a comprehensive review of the Façade Grant Program and is recommending updated guidelines for the 2026 funding cycle. The proposed changes are intended to simplify administration, reduce barriers to participation, and better position the program to support smaller, highly visible improvements throughout the DDA District.

Major changes from the existing program include:

- Maximum grant award of \$5,000.
- 75% DDA / 25% applicant cost-share, replacing the previous 50/50 match requirement.
- Elimination of the property lien and mortgage requirement, which previously placed a five-year lien on properties receiving funding.
- Transition to a reimbursement model, with funds released following completion and verification of the approved work.
- Year-round application availability, as funding allows, replacing the limited annual application window used under the current program. The DDA would retain the ability to establish application periods based on funding availability and program demand.

Overall, the revised program is intended to create a simpler, more accessible grant opportunity while maintaining appropriate project oversight and accountability.

Supporting Documentation:

DRAFT of Façade Grant Program Guidelines

Recommendation:

Motion to approve the updated Gladstone Downtown Development Authority Façade Grant Program Guidelines, as presented, effective October 1, 2026.