

STAFF REPORT

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

TO: Community Redevelopment Agency

MEETING DATE: November 6, 2024

FROM: Michael Daniels, AICP, Development Services Director

SUBJECT: CRA Grant Application

BACKGROUND

CRA Grants

Pursuant to the approved CRA Budget, \$20,758.25 was approved for façade grants for fy 24/25. Staff is recommending two separate CRA grants to incentive improvements within the CRA boundary. The Façade Grant/Property Improvement Assistance is focused on exterior improvements that will enhance the visual appearance and street presence of these businesses. The Building Code Assistance Grant would be focused on addressed Building Code requirements critical to ensuring the safety and functionality of the businesses.

Façade Grant/Property Improvement Assistance

The Business Façade Grant Program provides a matching grant to commercial property owners and/or commercial tenants, located in the targeted area, to assist with eligible exterior building and site improvements. Eligible applicants include both commercial property owners and business lessees with written authorization of the property owner. Eligible businesses would be non-residential projects. The façade grant award would include 30% match of total projects costs with a maximum award of \$10,000. The grant application would be advertised and applicants would have an opportunity to apply for the grant in two annual cycles. Eligible projects include façade improvements, landscaping, storefront transparent glass, awnings.

Building Code Assistance Grant

The Building Code Assistance Grant provides a 50% matching grant to commercial property owners and/or commercial tenants to provide assistance to owners or tenants of property located within the community redevelopment area in order to further the purposes of the Downtown Redevelopment Plan by improving the ability to keep existing businesses and assist new businesses moving in that area. The grant application process would be on a first come first serve basis. Examples of improvements include fire alarm systems, grease traps, handicap accessible bathrooms.

Attachments Include:

- CRA Improvement Assistance Grant
- CRA Building Code Assistance Grant

The proposed grants will provide assistance to property owners and businesses to improve their properties in keep with the CRA Objectives and Guidelines. Staff recommends approval of the requested CRA Improvement and Building Assistant Grants for fiscal year 2024/25.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Rezoning

Motion to approve CRA Grants for fiscal year 2024/25.