



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
DOWNTOWN ADVISORY BOARD



TITLE OF ITEM: Duke Energy Grant Update

Summary:

Friends of Downtown Hendersonville received a \$25,000 grant from Duke Energy Foundation to support downtown businesses with micro-grants. We received a similar grant in 2021 specifically to fund our 'Pivot Grant' program in response to Covid-19 pandemic related issues for business.

For 2026, the grant program will be able to support our overall grant initiatives, not limiting to just pivot grants. This will allow a diverse set of applicants for the program.

August 10, 2026- Economic Vitality Committee reviewed the program and made the following recommendations:

1. Funds to be advertised as \$1500 grants, with potential for additional funds being available for larger award.
2. Note that applicants seeking larger façade grant projects should schedule an appointment with Jamie Carpenter to review – this will allow us to determine additional façade or mural grant funding

Important Dates & Deadlines:

1. Monday, August 17 – 2pm – meet at the corner of 5th Avenue and Main Street for a check presentation (photo opportunity) with Duke Energy Foundation Reps – downtown board/committee members invited!
2. August 21 – Jamie will send draft application to committee for review by this date.
3. Any suggested edits should be submitted to Jamie by August 28
4. Grant Applications Open September 15 (tentative – will plan for earlier release)
5. Grant Deadline October 26, 2026
6. Committee Review November 3, 2026 at 4pm – in person or via zoom
7. Grant Award Announcement by December 1, 2026
8. Microgrant Recipient list due to Duke Energy by Dec. 31, 2026
9. Recipients must submit grant report to receive reimbursable payment by April 30, 2027