

**City of Sedgwick
City Council Meeting
October 2, 2024**

TO: Mayor and City Council

SUBJECT: 2025 Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program

INITIATED BY: Administration

AGENDA: New Business

Recommendation: Approve the 2025 Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program guidelines.

Background: Staff brought forth a draft of the 2025 Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program during a workshop earlier this year. Before you tonight are the program guidelines with recommended changes. This program is designed to increase access to redevelopment funding for residential improvements for properties in Sedgwick.

Financial Considerations: The program sets a minimum investment from the property owner at \$500 before funding initiates. Upon a successfully completed application being filed with proof of initial investment, the city will reimburse the property owner up to 20% of qualified costs. The minimum reimbursement amount from the city is set at \$100 with the maximum reimbursement amount being set at \$1,000. The 2025 adopted budget allocation based on these figures allowed for ten (10) properties within the city to be fully funded at the maximum amount.

Recommendations/Actions: It is recommended that the City Council approve the 2025 Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program guidelines.

Attachment: Grant guidelines

2025 Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program

Introduction:

The City of Sedgwick Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program is designed to increase access to redevelopment funding for residential improvements for properties in Sedgwick, Kansas. The purpose of the program is to improve property conditions, aesthetics, and aid in the elimination of slum and blight conditions. The focus of this program is directed to visible exterior improvements of residential properties to enhance street and neighborhood aesthetics.

Scope:

The program was developed to create value for the citizens of Sedgwick by promoting a resident and neighborhood friendly atmosphere; promoting economic development and neighborhood revitalization; incentivizing property owners to enhance and sustain the values of their property; creating a more inviting and visually appealing atmosphere; and instilling a greater sense of place and civic identity.

Eligible properties will receive a 20% reimbursement upon completion of qualified exterior improvements. Complete applications will be funded until all program funds are allocated. All work completed as part of this program must adhere to the current Municipal Code. If work is to be completed by a contractor, the contractor must be licensed through the City of Sedgwick.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the Program the property must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Properties fifteen (15) years or more in age
- Non-apartment residential properties
- **Minimum investment from property owner: \$500**
- Exterior improvements include, but are not limited to: painting, roofing, siding, door/window replacement, masonry repair, foundation repairs, addition of a whole house generator and building additions. The eligibility of improvements not listed are to be determined by the Zoning Administrator.
- Only labor costs will be reimbursed if work is completed by a third-party contractor
- Property owner must be current on all property taxes in Sedgwick
- All other properties owned in Sedgwick must be code compliant
- Property owner must provide proof of adequate property insurance
- **Minimum reimbursement amount: \$100**
- **Maximum reimbursement amount: \$1,000**

Process:

Applications for the Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program may be made online or at City Hall. Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received with eligible properties being funded until all program funds are allocated. Quotations for work must be submitted at the time of application. This is a reimbursement grant, as such, any work completed prior to the official awarding date will not be eligible for reimbursement and will be the sole responsibility of the applicant. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that all required permits have been obtained. Work approved through this program must be completed within 120 days of the application approval. Only one property per owner, per year may participate in the program.

Reimbursement:

Prior to the disbursement of reimbursement funds, the property owner must provide the following:

- Receipts totaling \$500 in completed work
- Completed post project inspection report from the city building inspector