2025 Commercial Exterior Beautification Program

Stewartville Economic Development Authority

Program Intent

Stewartville's Economic Development Authority (EDA) was established to attract, promote, and develop an economically sound future for the City. The EDA continues to be a professional advocate for the business community; they provide ideas, information, financial packaging, and expertise in business development and retention. The EDA's objective is to make Stewartville an even better place to live, work, and do business.

The EDA established this program with the intention to enhance and improve the outward appearance of buildings and/or other areas of Stewartville's business districts. This program is designed to encourage the beautification of existing property exteriors and enhance the general character of commercial properties located in Stewartville; as such, improvements must be highly visible.

Program Funding

$25,000 total has been designated for the program

The program will accept applications in two rounds, reviewing them in the order they were received. Applications submitted after the listed deadlines will not be considered.

Matching Grant: Up to $5,000

Match Requirement: Dollar for Dollar

An applicant may complete an application for a project that includes more than one eligible expenditure; however, a total of $5,000 may be awarded per property.

_____

Round 1: **Applications will be accepted January 6th, 2025 - March 1st, 2025.** For commercial properties that have NOT received funding/assistance within the last five years.

Round 2: **Applications will be accepted March 2nd, 2025 - July 31st, 2025** or until funding has been committed - whichever occurs first.
For all eligible commercial properties.

NO WORK MAY BEGIN PRIOR TO EDA APPROVAL

All projects **must** be completed with submitted invoices and completion photos on or before **December 31st, 2025.** Any projects not completed and/or submitted for reimbursement by that time will not be eligible for reimbursement irrespective of approval.

Eligible Properties & Projects

Eligible properties will include existing commercial buildings within the Stewartville City Limits. Eligible properties must be commercially zoned properties - excluding those properties that are used for residential purposes.

Projects that enhance and improve the aesthetics of the City's business district are eligible for programming. Projects must be highly visible.

*Please note: Property must not have any outstanding obligations to the City (including delinquent payments or property taxes), applicant must either own the property or provide written authorization of the project, and project must have all required permits and approvals (if necessary).

Eligible Projects

- Painting of building exterior including necessary scraping, repairing, and preparation for completion
- Siding
- Instillation of planters that will enhance the property
- Permanent landscaping and green space
- Awnings and canopies (Including the instillation of new awnings and removal of deteriorating awnings and canopies)
- Brick tuckpointing
- Power washing of building exterior
- Instillation of brick or stone onto building facade
- Repair and instillation of cornices, corbels, and decorative details
- Exterior Lighing
- Signage
- Murals

Application Process

1. **Submission of Application**
   - All applications will be reviewed in the order they were received
   - Incomplete applications will not be accepted
   - Email your completed application and photos over to Sandra Drees at sdrees@stewartvillemn.com

2. **Application Review**
   - The application will be reviewed by City staff and the EDA Finance Committee for recommendation to bring to the EDA Board

3. **Application Decision**
   - Once the application has been given official recommendation, the application will be added to the agenda for the next EDA meeting
   - EDA will approve or deny your application at the next scheduled meeting - it is recommended that you attend to present your project

4. **Project Work**
   - Once the application is approved - you may now start work on the project

5. **Reimbursement**
   - When the project is completed, you will need to provide the City with pictures of the completed project and a copy of the "Paid Invoice"
   - Once you submit these items, Council will approve your reimbursement check at the next meeting
   - Please reach out to Sandra Drees if you would prefer to have your check mailed out to you or if you would prefer to pick it up at City Hall

2025 Commercial Exterior Beautification Program Application

Stewartville Economic Development Authority

Name: _____ Date:_____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Project Address: _____

Project Summary:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Total Project Cost: _____ Total Amt. Requested: _____

Applicant Certification

We, the undersigned certify that the information submitted is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge, that we have read, understand, and will comply with the program guidelines. We understand that this application will be reviewed based on the information provided herein and that if the final project does not meet minimum program guidelines, the City reserves the right to deny payment. We confirm that if approved, the City may use the approved business' name and information in promotional/publicity materials, events, etc. But for the assistance provided through this program by the Stewartville Economic Development Authority, we would not have the resources to complete this project or to complete this project to the extent that we will with assistance.

_____   _____
Name/Title (Printed)   *Name/Title (Printed)*

_____   _____
Signature   *Date*   *Signature*   *Date*

NO WORK MAY BEGIN PRIOR TO EDA APPROVAL

Established January 2025

2025 Commercial Exterior Beautification Program Application Checklist:

Stewartville Economic Development Authority

Required Application Documentation

- ☐ Completed and signed application form

- ☐ Cost estimates from two different vendors for equivalent project scope (We encourage you to do business local!)

- ☐ Project plans AND drawing/sketches

- ☐ Picture of property BEFORE work begins

- ☐ Email confirmation from City Clerk that project is compliant with permitting and ordinances (croeder@stewartvillemn.com)

- ☐ If property is leased: A copy of the lease agreement AND written permission from the property owner

Required Application Documentation

- ☐ Picture of property after the project is completed

- ☐ Proof of payment - paid invoice, receipt, etc.

Local Financing Options

Should you wish to explore financing options for your project, the following local banks are willing to consider applications.

*Please note, a conversation with or application to one of these banks does not automatically result in approval. All terms and evaluations of applications will be negotiated by and with the individual bank personnel/committees.Furthermore, the listing of banks is provided in alphabetical order. It does not indicate a level of preference or performance.

Bremer Bank
Contact: Mike Rainey
Email: MARainey@bremer.com

First Farmers and Merchants Bank
Contact: Dave Feddersen
Email: davidfeddersen@ffmbank.com

Eagle Rock Bank
Contact: Josh Buckmeier
Email: jbuckmeier@eaglerock.bank

First Alliance Credit Union
Contact: Rosalina Fombuena
Email: rfombuena@firstalliancecu.com

Local Contractors

If you anticipate on hiring a contractor to complete your project, we encourage you to support local business!

- A.B Systems Inc..507.288.9397
- ABC Supply Co...507.512.0529
- Ausrud Tile & Stone Co..507.261.7489
- Bluff Country Tree Service LLC..............................507.251.4775
- Byrne Construction Inc...507.208.1245
- Complete Outdoor Service..507.696.7879
- Exterior Cleaning Solutions.....................................507.273.8017
- Hildebrandt Services LLC..507.208.6228
- Kuisle Construction LLC...507.421.7369
- Lewis Restoration..507.252.6959
- Link's Outdoor Services LLC....................................507.259.5066
- Plumbing Solutions...507.923.5973
- Radcliffe Homes...507.533.8295
- Reliable Contractors Inc...507.288.4600
- Rochester Ground..507.288.1131
- Root River Tree Service...507.218.1585
- S&S Overhead Door..507.271.8635
- Schneider Construction...507.244.1044
- Schwickerts Tecta America..507.281.0611
- Service Solutions Center..507.292.8862