



Downtown Business Vitality Program

The purpose of this program is to improve the facilities for business in the Central Business Area. It also has a focus on providing businesses and services to the community that are not currently provided. Businesses can apply for up to a \$45,000 grant. The applicants will be reviewed by a committee and prioritized by need. The Committee will consist of Downtown Manager, Downtown Coordinator, and a representative of the City Manager's office.

Improvement Categories:

Façade Improvements – Improvements to the exterior of a building that are visible from public right-of-way. Improvements may include awnings, replacement of windows and doors, code compliance issues, signage, and restoration of historical façade design elements that may be missing or in disrepair.

Other exterior and interior improvements and equipment to attract unique businesses not currently provided downtown will be considered. These improvements can include but are not limited to grease traps, ventilation hoods, roll up doors.

Mural Program – To create or restore murals on the outside of a business. The maximum amount of grant funding that can be used towards mural installation is 10,000 (.5 to 1 match up to 10,000) The mural must be consistent with the vision and history of Grand Prairie. It must fall into the intended family friendly atmosphere.

Eligibility:

- In order to qualify for funding the project cost must exceed \$10,000. The city will provide a 50/50 match up to \$45,000. The applicant will fund the first 50% of payments. The city will fund the remaining 50% of the payments.
- Must be a current or prospective business in the Central Business Area.
- If property is sold or the business closes within 24 months of receiving grant funding, the grant funding shall be repaid to the city.
- Must be operational for 30 hours a week
- Proof of the applicant's ownership of the subject facility, or proof that the owner of such facility has approved the application for such grant funds is required.
- If approved, business may not reapply until 24 months has elapsed from project completion and payment of previous grant.
- Grant applicants must provide at least 2 estimates for the entire grant project.

DOWNTOWN BUSINESS VITALITY PROJECT APPLICATION

Incentive Objectives

- Energize the local economy, encourage private investment, and raise the property values of our business owners

Requirements

- Applicants must not have participated in the Business Vitality Program within the last year.
- Requested project(s) must be mutually-agreed upon between the Applicant and the City of Grand Prairie's Downtown Development Unit.
- The total project cost must exceed \$10,000. The property owner is required to invest 50% of the final project cost and must pay this up front. The city will pay for 50% up to \$45,000.
 - If the total project cost is \$10,000, the property owner must contribute \$5,000.
 - If the total project cost is \$100,000, the property owner must contribute \$ 55,000.
- The building benefitting from the project must be located in the Central Business Area (Downtown).
- Improvements to the building resulting from this project must be maintained by the property owner, subject to City oversight, for a period of 5 years.
- Projects must be on private property located within the Grand Prairie city limits with an active commercial use.
- Members of the Grand Prairie City Council, City of Grand Prairie Employees, or their direct family members are excluded from participation in these incentives.
- Applicants must be in good standing with the City of Grand Prairie on all obligations.

Application Review

- The City of Grand Prairie's Downtown Development Unit will review all eligible application submittals.
- Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Applications that do not meet the requirements outlined above will be removed from consideration.
- The Downtown Development Unit will review applications based on a number of factors including but not limited to adherence to the application requirements, the strength/detail of the project description and documentation provided, the overall benefit to the residents of Grand Prairie, past participation in the program, cohesive vision in conformity with the Downtown Master Plan, and the availability of funding.
- The Downtown Development Unit provides equal consideration to all eligible applicants without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, marital status, amnesty, or status as a covered veteran in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.
- Applications will be accepted year-round

Applicants must submit a complete application to the Grand Prairie Downtown Development Unit. Applicants must demonstrate how the project satisfies the Downtown Business vitality Program incentive objectives and requirements.

1. Name of Applicant: _____

2. Business Name: _____

3. Business Address: _____

4. Applicant Business Number: _____

5. Applicant Mobile Number: _____

6. Email Address: _____

7. Website Address: _____

8. Name of property owner, if different from applicant: _____

9. Property owner's mailing address, if different from applicant: _____

10. Property owner's phone number, if different from applicant: _____

11. Date of Application: _____

Provide project description and attach any supporting documentation and/or plans for your request. Be specific in your request.

Please submit completed form with requested supporting documentation to City Manager's Office, 300 W Main St., Grand Prairie, Texas 75050. Application and supporting documentation may be submitted electronically to cnami@gptx.org. For questions, contact Chip Nami, cnami@gptx.org or 972-237-4466.