



*old values • new visions*

## OKEECHOBEE MAIN STREET, INC.

111 NE 2nd Street - Okeechobee, FL 34972 - Phone 863.357.MAIN - Fax 863.467.8488

[www.mainstreetokeechobee.com](http://www.mainstreetokeechobee.com)

# Matching Grant Program For Facades and Beautification

## Introduction

The purpose of this program is to restore, improve or create historic architectural features to facades of structures or support beautification plantings within the Okeechobee Main Street, Inc. Local Program Area (LPA). The program is meant to enhance the structures without compromising the historic character of the LPA.

## Who Can Apply

Any business/property owner within the LPA can apply.

## Program Guidelines

- Where practical, all building facades shall be restored to their original period design. If it is deemed not practical by the Okeechobee Main Street (OKMS) Design Review board, then a similar architectural design shall be used. All horizontal and vertical features (lintels and piers) shall be retained.
- If a structure does not have a historically significant architectural design or feature, then a proposed historic design may be submitted to qualify for this grant program.
- All structures shall be designed, constructed and maintained to compliment and accept the architectural features of the building. All accessories, sign awnings shall likewise harmonize with the overall character of the building.
- All color schemes shall accent the structure as well as harmonize with adjacent buildings. Colors shall be period specific. Historical murals will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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- Funds shall be allocated on a first come basis. Only one Grant shall be awarded for one category. Tenants may qualify upon receipt of written consent of the owner of the building. All Grant funds awarded require a matching dollar for dollar expenditure by the owner/tenant. Funds may be awarded as follows:
  - Up to \$1000.00 for facades, storefronts, awnings
  - Or
  - Up to \$500.00 for signage
  - Or
  - Up to \$500.00 for plants, trees, etc for beautification
- No work for which a Grant is sought should begin until authorized by the OKMS Board
- No grant monies or matching monies shall be used to perform general repair, structural or habitable work or otherwise to meet code to occupy the structure.
- To qualify for grant funds, and application and appropriate plans must be submitted to the OKMS office at 111 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> St.
- No grants will be made to government-owned properties or to tenants in government owned properties.
- Work done by the applicant requires an estimate from an outside source to verify that costs are within reasonable parameters.
- Plants, Trees or shrubs used in any beautification project must adhere to the City landscape ordinance and must comply with Florida's Exotic Pest Counsel's 2005 list of invasive species. The of the following web site should be used to denote those plants which are prohibited by the State of Florida (<http://www.fleppc.org/list/list05web.pdf>)
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## **Grant Procedures**

1. Submit completed application and checklist with supporting data to the OKMS Design Review Board office
2. The OKMS Design Review board evaluates the application based on the applicant meeting the program guidelines.
3. The OKMS Design Review Board votes on committee recommendation. The OKMS Design Review Board will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday\* of each month. Upon approval by the board, written notice will be sent to the property owner and work can begin. No work should start until written notice is received.
4. Grantee is responsible for obtaining any permits required to do the project. Cost of permitting cannot be part of the grant funding.
5. When the project is complete the OKMS Design Review Board will reimburse the owner 50% of an approved/paid bill with the OKMS Design Review Board maximum contribution being stipulated based on the type of work done within the parameters of the program guidelines. A social security number will be required for tax purposes.
6. Grantee must submit a paid bill for reimbursement together with an affidavit from the contractor certifying the work, as submitted, is complete.
7. Any unapproved changes will void the grant. If grantee decides to change the project after approval they must contact the OKMS Design Review Board Office.
8. The OKMS Board reserves the right to grant additional money to targeted projects that they believe will have significant impact on the area

\*Meeting dates are subject to change

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## **Matching Grant Program For Facades Supporting Data Checklist**

### **Checklist must be submitted with application**

#### **SIGNS:**

- Provide a color rendering of the design chosen
- Include specifications as to the size and width of the sign
- Note how and where the sign will be hung on the building
- Submit written estimate from a sign company
- Submit written verification that design and size comply with City/County codes

#### **PAINT:**

- Provide samples of the colors chosen
- Mark which color will be body color and which will be accent colors.
- Note where each color will be used
- Submit written estimate from painter of your choice

#### **AWNINGS:**

- Provide samples about color and style of awning chosen
- Note where awnings will be placed on building
- Submit written estimate
- Submit written verification that design and size comply with City/County codes

#### **Plant, Trees & Shrubs:**

- Provide a landscaping drawing of beautification plan
- List types of plant, shrubs or trees being used
- Submit written estimate
- Submit written verification that landscape design complies with City/County code

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**MAJOR FAÇADE ALTERNATION:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide a rendering of major changes, including paint and awning colors where applicable.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Submit a written estimate from contractor.

**ALL PROJECTS PROPOSED BY TENANTS:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ To be eligible for a direct grant, tenants need to provide a notarized Authorization for work from the property owner
- \_\_\_\_\_ Submit signed Hold Harmless Agreement (See attached)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Submit copy of current Occupational License and Certificate of Use

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## Release and Hold Harmless Agreement

Release executed on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005, by (Property Owner)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and (Tenant, if applicable)  
\_\_\_\_\_, of (Street Address)  
\_\_\_\_\_, City of Okeechobee, County of Okeechobee,  
referred to as Releaser(s).

In consideration of being granted monies for restoration, modifications, signage, or other physical changes to the property located at the above address, the Releaser(s), understands that they are solely responsible for providing their own contractors, and to assure that those contractors are fully insured and licensed and have obtained all necessary permits in accordance with City and County regulations. The Releaser(s) waives, releases, discharges and covenants not to sue the Okeechobee Main Street Program for loss or damage, and claims or damages, therefore, on account of any work that has been performed in accordance with City, County or State guidelines.

Releaser(s) agrees that this release, waiver, and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Florida and that if any portion of the agreement is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

Releaser(s) further stated that it has carefully read the above release and knows the contents of the release and signs this release as its own free act.

Releaser(s) obligations and duties hereunder shall in no manner be limited or restricted by the maintaining of any insurance coverage related to the above referenced event.

This release contains the entire agreement between the parties to this agreement and the terms of this release are contractual and not mere recital.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tenant Signature (If Applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

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# Matching Grant Program For Facades Application

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Façade Improvement Proposed** (note all that apply). **Supporting Data Checklist must be included with application.**

Signage: Removal \_\_ New \_\_\_ Altered \_\_\_ Repaired \_\_\_

Painting (approx. square footage) \_\_\_\_\_

Structural Alterations \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cosmetic Alterations: (moldings, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Other work: Please specify (Awnings, etc) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost of Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Requested: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Façade match not to exceed program guidelines

Owner may only apply for one matching grant

I hereby submit the attached plans, specifications and color samples for the proposed project and understand that the OKMS Design Review Board must approve these. No work should begin until I have received written approval from the OKMS Design Review Board. I further understand the project must be completed within 3 months from date written approval is received; grant monies will not be paid until the project is completed. I agree to leave the completed project in its approved design and colors for a period of 2 years from the date of completion. I also understand a social security number must be provided to the City of Okeechobee for tax purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Owner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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