

AURORA WARD 1 BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The Ward 1 Committee will receive applications from business owners within Ward 1 for exterior and other improvements to their buildings or property, as approved by the Committee. The property must have a business zoning or equivalent and be operated as such. The business must be located within the Ward 1 boundaries of the City of Aurora.

The business grant is a 50/50 match up to a maximum of \$5,000.00 per project per year. Applications will be accepted on Ward 1 forms, reviewed and approved subject to available money in the Ward 1 Business Grant Program.

Applicants must provide a minimum of three bids or estimates where possible for the proposed work, along with their application. All bids shall be obtained from contractors that pay prevailing wage*. Selected contractor must pay prevailing wage* consistent with Illinois law, 820 ILCS 130 et. seq. Applicant is solely responsible for paying contractor in full. Applicants will be responsible for all applicable permits from the City as well as monitoring and approval of the contractor's work through completion of the project. A lien waiver may be required if using a sub-contractor. Neither the City nor the Ward Committee will be responsible to ensure that the contracted work is done to the business owner's satisfaction.

The Committee will review applications and the applicant will receive a written notification to proceed with the work. Preference will be given to applicants where local Aurora contractors are used to perform the work. Approval for applications will be based on the impact to the surrounding area and the need of the work being requested. The Committee will also check with various City departments to ensure there are no violations or outstanding liens against the property.

Upon notification of the grant approval, the applicant will proceed with the project. The Alderman and a representative from the Ward Committee will verify that the work has been completed and forward the appropriate documentation to the City. The applicant shall submit the appropriate invoice(s) and proof of compliance with the Grant Program terms to the Ward 1 Alderman for reimbursement.

Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, and funds will be distributed based on availability of annual budgeted funds at the discretion of the Ward 1 Committee and the Alderman. The grant period is based on calendar year, and funds will not be carried over from year to year. This program will not be extended past the current Alderman's term.

Payment(s) will be made to the applicant who is solely responsible for payment to the contractor(s).

Submitting false information on the grant application or failing to comply with the grant application requirements may result in denial of reimbursement.

*For more information about prevailing wage see:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/idol/laws-rules/conmed/pages/rates.aspx>