



Legislation Text

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File #: 23-0416, Version: 1

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**TO:** Mayor Richard C. Irvin

**FROM:** Alderman Ted Mesiacos, Ward 3

**DATE:** September 26, 2023

**SUBJECT:**

A Resolution authorizing a two-year grant program in the amount of \$75,000.00 per year in partnership with Invest Aurora for the Ward 3 Façade and Site Improvement Grant Program.

**PURPOSE:**

To will support and encourage business property owners and tenants in Ward 3 to re-invest in and renovate their buildings and properties. The City of Aurora's Ward 3 Façade and site improvement Grant Program is intended to encourage business property owners and tenants in Ward 3 to re-invest and renovate their buildings and properties.

**BACKGROUND:**

This program was established in 2022 to assist small businesses to update, repair and maintain their buildings and properties. Eligible rehabilitation projects must be commercial or mixed-use properties within Ward 3 municipal boundaries.

**DISCUSSION:**

Reimbursements will be made from the Ward 3 grant account, 313-1004-411.50-80 where \$75,000.00 will be earmarked for this program. The grant reimburses 50 percent of the total rehabilitation cost, but not to exceed \$25,000.00 in grant funds. The minimum overall project cost must be of \$5,000.00.

Invest Aurora's Grant Committee will review each proposal upon receipt of a completed application. The project must be completed 180 days from the receipt of the Commitment Letter.

Grants will be approved on a first-come first-serve basis until Ward 3 grant funds have depleted for the calendar year. Grants are disbursed as reimbursements after the project is complete, all contractors have been paid and signed lien waivers, and a Certificate of Occupancy is obtained from the City of Aurora.

**IMPACT STATEMENT:**

Approval of the program will encourage and support business property owners and tenants to improve their buildings and properties to enhance the appearance of surrounding neighborhoods.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Approve the Invest Aurora and Ward 3 Façade and Site Improvement Grant Program.

cc: Rules, Administration and Procedure Committee



CITY OF AURORA, ILLINOIS

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF PASSAGE \_\_\_\_\_

A Resolution approving the Invest Aurora and Ward 3 Façade and Site Improvement Grant Program. WHEREAS, the City of Aurora has a population of more than 25,000 persons and is, therefore, a home rule unit under subsection (a) of Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

WHEREAS, subject to said Section, a home rule unit may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs for the protection of the public health, safety, morals, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, The Third Ward Alderman seeks to encourage and support business property owners and tenants in Ward 3 to re-invest in and renovate their buildings and properties; and

WHEREAS, the Invest Aurora and Ward 3 Façade and Site Improvement Grant Program serves a public benefit by encouraging improvements to the exterior of the buildings thereby improving the appearance of the neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the Invest Aurora and Ward 3 Façade and Site Improvement Grant Program is attached; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Aurora, Illinois, as follows: grants awarded under this program during the term for which is authorized shall be deemed encumbered upon award and may be paid to the recipient in accordance with this resolution.