



STOREFRONT FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT

A PROGRAM OF THE DC DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DHCD funds highly qualified Community-Based non-profit Organizations (CBOs) to develop storefront façade improvement projects in low/moderate income retail/commercial areas in the District. Storefront façade improvement enhances the image and overall economic viability of neighborhood business districts; and spurs new private investment.

How Are Projects Selected?

Typically, participating CBOs select between 10 and 25 storefronts within a “target area” – preferably concentrated within a few blocks. Projects are selected based on their compatibility with the specifications and goals in the agreement between DHCD and the CBOs.

What Type of Funding Is Provided?

Qualified business and/or commercial property owners receive matching grants for general repairs/maintenance and for the installation of doors, windows, signs, storefront systems, awnings, and lighting. The CBO provides professional design and construction services throughout the renovation. The phases of development/construction are: (1) marketing; (2) design (architect, historic preservation review); (3) pre-construction; (4) construction; and (5) completion

What Types of Improvements Can I Make?

Exterior Building Repairs

- Exterior painting
- Removing inappropriate or incompatible exterior finishes and materials
- Restoring exterior finishes and materials
- Recessing/reconfiguring of existing doors and entrances
- Repairing or replacing existing storefront window systems
- Repairing persistent exterior damage (water damage, rotting wood, etc.)

Signs, Lights, Awnings and Roll-down Grates

- Signs (new, repairing, replacing and removing)
- Exterior building and sign lighting
- Display area improvements and lighting integral to the façade of the building
- Roll-down grate and grate box removal (installation of electronic security systems to replace grates is typically an allowable expense)



Am I Eligible?

Any property owner or store proprietor/tenant with lease authority or authorization from the owner can apply for funding (however, refer to program guidelines for ineligible properties). The project site must be located in the area targeted by CBOs. In most cases, tenants must have a minimum of two years remaining on their lease or an option to renew.

Continued on back page

- Awnings/canopies (new, repairs, or replacement)
- Appropriate exterior decorative architectural elements (shutters, parapets, cornices, etc.)

What Are the Design Guidelines?

All projects must be approved by a review committee and be in accordance with its guidelines. Additionally, all projects must conform to the District of Columbia's Zoning Code, including any Local Neighborhood Zoning sections.

Do I Need to Contribute to Project Costs?

This is a matching grant program, which means that applicants pay a small portion of the improvement project cost and CBOs pay the balance.

When Can I Apply?

You can apply for the program year round as long as the funding remains available.



How Can I Apply?

Please contact a Community-based Organization (CBO) below, based upon the target area.

Name of CBO	Address	Contact Person	Targeted Area
Anacostia Economic Development Corporation	1800 Martin Luther King Jr., Avenue SE #100, Washington, DC 20020	Bill Hague (202) 889-5100 bill@aedc.net	Districtwide, especially Ward 8, 20020, 20032
ARCH Development Corporation	1227 Good Hope Road SE, Washington, DC 20020	Duane Gautier (202) 889-5035 dgautier@archdc.org	Wards 8 and 7
Barracks Row Main Streets, Inc.	733 1/2 8th Street SE, Washington, DC 20003	Martin Smith (202) 544-3188 martin@barracksrow.org	Barracks Row only
Deanwood Heights Main Streets	4645 Nannie H. Burroughs Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20019	Deborah Jones (202) 621-2288 djones@wardseven.com	Ward 7, Minnesota Avenue NE only
Development Corp. of Columbia Heights	2604 Georgia Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001	Andre Byers (202) 483-4982 abyers@dcch.org	Wards 1 and 4
Friends of Rhode Island Avenue Main Streets	2300 Rhode Island Avenue NE, Suite 202, Washington, DC 20018	Kyle Todd (202) 808-9050 kyle@riamainstreet.org	Ward 5
SB Works	2316 Rhode Island Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20018	John Mains (202) 803-5400 info@sbworksdc.org	Ward 5

Sign Up for Our Newsletter: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/DCWASH/subscriber/new>
 Follow us on Twitter: [@DCDHCD](https://twitter.com/DCDHCD)
 Friend us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Dcdhcd>
 Follow us on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/dcdhcd/>



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR