

**City of Ainsworth
Economic Development Program (LB840) Façade Grant Application**

Process and Requirements

Façade Grants: For exterior building improvements for any commercial property in Ainsworth. Façade includes the face of a building, especially the front that looks onto a street or open space.

The minimum grant amount is \$2,500 and the maximum grant amount is \$10,000 per project and applicants will need to provide a 50% match (cash and/or in-kind labor). The project shall be consistent with the Economic Development Program Plan. Applications must be submitted before construction begins.

A complete, signed grant application must be returned to the North Central Development Center (NCDC), who has partnered with the City of Ainsworth for the administration of the Economic Development Program. Incomplete applications will not be accepted; however, if necessary, applications may be amended in writing after they have been approved. Applications shall include the following:

- Historic photographs of the building;
- Photographs as necessary to describe the proposed work or project;
- Dimensioned drawings or sketches of the proposed work or project;
- Specific product information for any doors, windows, awnings, exterior finish materials or other permanent materials to be installed. Color samples or chips must be submitted with the application. (It is not the intent of the City to limit or dictate individual color choices; however, colors will be evaluated to ensure they will be compatible with the overall character of the business district.
- If you are not the property owner – authorization to submit the grant application on behalf of the property owner
- \$100 non-refundable application fee payable to the City of Ainsworth (City reserves the right to waive the application fee for non-profit organizations)

Once a complete application is submitted along with all required supporting documentation, the application will be forwarded to the Loan Committee for review. The Loan Committee will make a recommendation to the Ainsworth City Council to either approve, approve with suggested changes, or deny the funding application. The Ainsworth City Council will then make a final decision regarding funding.

Upon approval, grant-qualified work may begin only after the applicant has signed and returned the grant agreement from the City of Ainsworth. This grant agreement and any written amendments will be the binding document between the grant recipient and the City of Ainsworth.

The applicant is responsible for any City or State permits that are required for their project.

Grant funding is handled on a reimbursement basis for completed work. Any expenses incurred prior to the official release of funds by the City of Ainsworth will not be eligible for reimbursement.

If an applicant requires interim financing before grant reimbursement, contact your local financial institution.

Full reimbursement will occur only after the project has been completed per the grant agreement:

- Been inspected and approved by the City of Ainsworth;

- **Been inspected and approved by the State Fire Marshal;**
- **Been inspected and approved by the State Electrical Engineer; and**
- **A request for reimbursement along with invoices and proof of payment has been submitted to the City of Ainsworth.**

Expenses that are not eligible for reimbursement include rental or purchase of tools, machinery, equipment, or labor provided by the applicant/owner.

Questions?

Please contact:

**Kristin Olson
North Central Development Center, Executive Director**

**402-387-2740
ncddirector@gmail.com**