

Forsyth Main Street

2024 Sign & Façade Grant Program

Façade & Sign Grant Program

The Forsyth Main Street Sign Grant Program is funded by the City of Forsyth. It is administered by Forsyth Main Street. Downtown Forsyth is in a local Historic District, and all projects must adhere to Main Street Design Guidelines (attached herein).

Purpose and History

The purpose of the grant is to stimulate investment into the revitalization and preservation of Forsyth's historic downtown area in the interest of public health, safety, and welfare. Downtown Forsyth is the historic core of the city and serves as the seat of business, government, and service for the community. With architecture dating back to the 1820's, downtown is the heart of the historic district. Its pedestrian focus and historic buildings invite both residents and tourists. Each downtown building has an individual character, and each building is treated with respect to its unique features, historic appearance and significance, current conditions, contribution, and impact.

Good signage should always complement the architecture of the building. Signs that are too large, too abundant, or out of place stylistically will convey a poor image and will detract from the aesthetic appeal. All the following factors should be considered: layout, composition, materials, color, size, graphics, typeface, and installation.

Façade Grant

This grant is available for exterior improvements and may be applied to a front or rear façade, provided it maintains the integrity of the historic nature of your building and faces a public street or parking area. Grants are available on a 50/50 matching basis with a cap of \$1,000. Contact Takeimia Childs at 478-994-7747 for additional information regarding the following: paint colors, historic renovation information, low interest loan information, and historic information about your building. Façade grants are reviewed on the second Monday of each month, on a first come/first-serve basis. Make sure to follow the directions, as indicated on the Façade Grant Application.

Sign Grant

Are available on a 50/50 matching basis with a cap of \$1,000 per grant. Grant funds are for signs which may include signboards, projecting signs and pedestrian signage (includes window sign, hanging sign, and awning/ canopy sign) for commercial buildings located in the downtown district. See Sign Design Guidelines below. Eligible projects must be located in the Historic District of Forsyth. Potentially eligible participants include commercial property owners or business owners. Government entities and national franchises are excluded.

Façade Grant - Eligible Projects

- Exterior painting
- Replacement/uncovering of architectural
- Restoration of original and/or historical façade structures
- Structural stabilization
- Exterior walls/materials
- Masonry cleaning
- Exterior door & window replacement
- Canopies and awnings
- Decorative exterior architectural features (including light fixtures)

** Exterior paint colors should be harmonious with neighboring structures. Benjamin Moore Preservation Palette is recommended.*

***Inappropriate chemical cleaners and sandblasting are forbidden for surface cleaning of structures, due to possible damage to aged building components.*

Façade Grant - Ineligible Projects

- Roofs
- Personal property and/or equipment
- Interior improvements of any type
- Security systems
- Gutters and downspouts
- General maintenance (except painting)

Sign Grant - Eligible Projects

- Three dimensional signs (carved wood and raised letter signs) are required
- Flush, flat mounted signboard with raised letters (at least 1" thick)
- Gilded or painted lettering on the storefront display windows
- Letter stenciled or sewn into the flap of awning
- Hanging signs/projecting signs (three dimensional)

**Other signage can be reviewed for approval (i.e., metal signs).*

**Forsyth Main Street
Façade & Sign Grant Application**

Name:

Address:

Phone :

Email:

Project/Building Address :

Tenant/Building Owner Name :

Property Owner:

Property Owner Signature (or attached consent letter:

Check the grant for which you are applying:

[] Façade Grant (max award of \$1,000)

[] Sign Grant (max award of \$1,000)

Provide a brief description of the project with the projected costs:

Project:		Cost:	
Project:		Cost:	
Project:		Cost:	
Date to begin:		Completion date (est.):	
Total Project Amounts:			
Project cost:		Total amount requested:	

Authorization:

I, _____, do hereby make application to Forsyth Main Street for a Downtown Façade/Sign grant for _____.

I verify the information provided in this application is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge (this includes attached receipts). I verify that I have reviewed and understand the rules and regulations set forth in the Forsyth Main Street Façade/Sign Grant Program and I agree to the terms therein.

I understand that receipt of my application by Forsyth Main Street does not obligate them in any way, indicate any funds available, or indicate that my application will be approved. I understand that any work started before the grant application is reviewed and approved could disqualify my project from receiving assistance.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Procedure:

1. Fully review and sign the application.
2. Ensure that the property owner signed the application or provided a letter of consent (attached).
3. Plan your project.
4. Submit application to Forsyth Main Street with a drawing of the proposed project.
5. Receive pre-approval for your grant (if applicable).
6. Keep copies of **all** eligible receipts while completing the project.
7. You will be reimbursed of matching funds, with \$1,000 maximum on each grant (Façade and Sign)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Pre-approved Zoning Admin: _____

Grant Approved []

Grant NOT approved: []

Reason: _____

Project completion date: _____

Date Check Awarded: _____ Reason: _____