



Virginia Main Street Downtown Improvement Grants

Applications due Friday, May 21, 2010, at 5:00 p.m.

In an ongoing celebration of the Virginia Main Street's 25th anniversary, we are pleased to announce a rare funding opportunity specifically for designated Virginia Main Street communities.

Downtown Improvement Grants of up to \$2,500 per designated community are now available for special, one-time projects. The grant opportunity is designed to offer communities the ability to complete a Main Street-related project for which financial resources are not otherwise available.

The project should be short in duration and have a specific goal and completion date. The grant funds are not to be used for continuing operations, program administration, payroll, debts or any other operational expenses. It is solely for use for projects directly benefitting the community.

The grants are available only to designated Virginia Main Street (VMS) communities and must be administered through the designated local VMS organization. Applicants must be current on all VMS reports.

Grant applications should be submitted as a letter with an attached timeline and budget for the project. Letters should be no more than 2 pages (not including attachments), signed by the board president, and submitted electronically as a PDF document by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 21, 2010 to Douglas.Jackson@dhcd.virginia.gov.

Recipients must be able to take payment no later than June 11, 2010. Projects may be completed no later than December, 2010.

Grant applications will be scored based on:

- Measurable impacts or deliverables.
- Committee or volunteer project leadership/involvement.
- Partnerships.
- Leveraging of partnerships/other fund sources.
- Local government involvement/support.
- Short duration of project.
- The ability to complete the entire project using the \$2,500 (plus leverage).