

City of DeWitt

DDID Downtown Improvement Program 2025 Supplemental Information

Purpose:

The purpose of this grant program is to promote economic development, promote aesthetic improvements, and preserve the historical character within the downtown area. The goal of the program is to accomplish these objectives by providing financial incentives to beautify and improve commercial buildings located within the defined areas. These incentives are designed to assist in retaining the occupancy of commercial buildings and to promote the occupancy of vacant commercial buildings in Downtown DeWitt.

Eligible Applicants:

Eligible applicants are business owners or property owners in the SSMID in the City of DeWitt who are committed to improving and promoting Downtown DeWitt. All prospective new owners and new tenants shall also sign the application if the improvements are not for the exclusive benefit of the current owner.

Criteria to Be Considered for Funding:

- ◆ Projects that permanently improve (including features and improvements permanently affixed to the structure) the physical appearance of commercial property and, as a result of the improvement, better complement the Streetscape of the SSMID district.
- ◆ Grant funds will only cover costs of improvements of building façade/store fronts visible to the general public and relevant to the streetscape
- ◆ DDID funding request is 50% or less of the project. **Maximum grant is \$5,000.00.**
(Awards may be less than requested)
- ◆ Projects that maintain the historical integrity of the structure
- ◆ Projects that will permit new usage.
- ◆ Projects that retain existing jobs or create new jobs.

Grant Application Process:

Grant application materials may be picked up from City Hall, 510 9th Street, or can be found online at www.cityofdewittiowa.org. Applications and all supporting materials must be received via mail or hand delivered to City Hall by 4:30 p.m. on **July 31, 2025**. Completed applications should be submitted as follows:

Budget Year Funds	Application Deadline	Date Funds to be Reimbursed
2025-2026	July 31, 2025	Sept. 3, 2025, through June 1, 2026

Format Requirements:

- ◆ A signed original, along with supporting materials, must be submitted.
- ◆ Applications can be signed, scanned, and emailed to administrator@cityofdewittiowa.org, but must be received by the time stated above.
- ◆ Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.

- ◆ Funds will not be reimbursed until project is completed & inspected, and no earlier than September 3, 2025

Funding Requirements:

- ◆ **Maximum request is \$5,000 – grant may provide up to 50% of eligible project cost with maximum of \$5,000.00 (awards may be less than 50%)**
- ◆ **DDID will fund 1-3 qualified projects in the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year**
- ◆ Grant funds are available on a reimbursement basis only upon completion of the project and after inspection by a DDID Director or designee.
- ◆ Invoices for the costs incurred must be itemized and submitted for reimbursement
- ◆ All grants will be awarded up to a 50/50 cash match basis, **up to maximum of \$5,000.00.**
- ◆ Written quotes for each expense must be attached to your application.
- ◆ **Project must be completed before June 1, 2026.**
- ◆ **Project will not be reimbursed until after project is completed and inspected.**
- ◆ To be eligible applicant must be current on all County real estate taxes and all City utilities, fees, and other charges
- ◆ DDID does reserve the right to withhold approval of any and all applicants if project is deemed inappropriate for the program or the DeWitt Downtown

Decision Criteria and Rating of Applicants:

Projects will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

Exterior Design - Aesthetic Improvements

Significant exterior improvements that greatly improve “street” Aesthetics

Moderate exterior improvements that improve “street” Aesthetics

Improvements that complement the Streetscape Design.

Cost of the project

Maximum request is for 50% of the project cost, **with a maximum grant of \$5,000.00.**

Consideration will be given to the proportion of private match compared with the grant request.

Historic Integrity/Downtown Continuity/Structural Integrity

If structure is improved in a way that improves the building's historical integrity

If structure is improved in a way that improves long-term structural integrity

If structure is improved in a way that is consistent with the present downtown décor

Restoration and New Usage

Restoration that will permit new usage of space formerly not utilized

Jobs/Economic Development

New jobs created and jobs retained

Notification:

Applicants will be notified after **August 5, 2025**, regarding their funding status. Depending on funding, some project approvals may be delayed later into the fiscal year. Projects may begin once approved. Reimbursements will be available as early as September 3, 2025, but not until the project has been completed, inspected, and accepted.

For More Information/Questions: Contact City Administrator Steve Lindner at 563-659-3811 or at administrator@cityofdewittiowa.org.