

INTRODUCED: December 12, 2022

AN ORDINANCE No. 2022-360

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Façade Improvement Program Cooperation Agreement between the City of Richmond, Virginia and the Economic Development Authority of the City of Richmond, Virginia, for the purpose of promoting economic development along the City's Hull Street corridor by supporting projects that enhance neighborhood building façades.

Patron – Mayor Stoney

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: JAN 9 2023 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

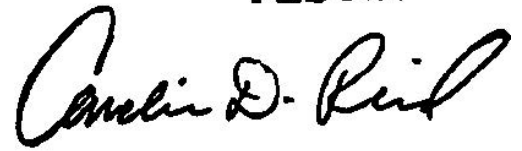
§ 1. That the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, be and is hereby authorized to execute a Façade Improvement Program Cooperation Agreement between the City of Richmond, Virginia and the Economic Development Authority of the City Richmond, Virginia, for the purpose of promoting economic development along the City's Hull Street corridor by supporting projects that enhance neighborhood building façades. The Façade Improvement Program Cooperation Agreement shall be approved as to form by the City Attorney and shall be substantially in the form of the document attached to this ordinance.

AYES: 8 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: JAN 9 2023 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

§ 2. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

**A TRUE COPY:
TESTE:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolin D. Reil". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

City Clerk



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
2nd Floor of City Hall
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov

Item Request File Number: **insert**

O & R Request

DATE: October 4, 2022

EDITION: 1

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor

THROUGH: J.E. Lincoln Saunders, Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: Sharon L. Ebert, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Economic Development and Planning

FROM: Kevin J. Vonck, Director, Department of Planning and Development Review

RE: Establish a Façade Improvement Program Cooperative Agreement between the City of Richmond and the Economic Development Authority of the City of Richmond for the purpose of operating a Façade Improvement Program along Hull Street.

ORD. OR RES. No. TBD

PURPOSE: To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into a Cooperation Agreement with Economic Development Authority for the purposes of administering the Façade Improvement Program on Hull Street.

REASON: To enter a Cooperation Agreement for the establishment of the Façade Improvement program on Hull Street.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval is recommended.

BACKGROUND: The Façade Improvement Program (FIP) was originally funded in the FY2013 and FY2014 adopted budgets as a comprehensive program for revitalizing the Arts & Cultural District in downtown Richmond. The FIP provided grants to property owners and tenants located within the Arts & Cultural District to improve their building façades. The Department of Planning & Development Review (PDR) and the Economic Development Authority (EDA) of the City of Richmond have managed and administered this program from 2013 to today. The City has supported 35 grants to owners and tenants to improve their building facades withing the Arts & Cultural District. This ordinance will extend the program to the Hull Street Corridor.

The funds for the Hull Street Façade Improvement Program come from the City's allocation of the

federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that was appropriated via Ord. 2021-191 to fund programs in accordance with the parameters set forth by ARPA. The \$250,000 for the Hull Street Façade Improvement Program should fund approximately 12 projects along the Hull Street corridor. See attached map that shows the extents of the program. The adoption of this paper will transfer the funds to the EDA who will award grants to private entities.

FISCAL IMPACTS/COSTS: No impact to the general fund. The \$250,000 is from the ARPA allocation.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: The adoption of this paper will allow the creation of financial incentives to eligible businesses located on Hull Street to improve their façades. These incentives will provide reimbursement, on a matching basis, to stimulate private investment in the respective businesses and properties housing the businesses, resulting in new and retained jobs and increased taxes for the City.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY: No

REVENUE TO CITY: N/A

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon adoption by City Council

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: November 14, 2022

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: December 12, 2022

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Finance and Economic Development

CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES: The Economic Development Authority

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Department of Budget and Strategic Planning; Department Finance; Department of Planning and Development Review; Department of Economic Development; Office of the City Attorney.

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: Ord. 2013-195-179, Ord. 2022-106, Ord 2021-291

ATTACHMENTS:

Draft Ordinance, Cooperation Agreement

STAFF: Maritza Mercado Pechin, Deputy Director, Dept. of Planning and Development Review (p) 804.646.6348 (e) maritza.pechin@rva.gov

COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE CITY OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
AND
THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND,
VIRGINIA

FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

THIS FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM COOPERATION AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”) is made as of _____, 2022, by and between the **CITY OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA**, a municipal corporation of the Commonwealth of Virginia (the “City”) and the **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA**, a political **subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia** (the “Authority”).

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, On Hull Street, shown on Exhibit “1.A” and “1.B” which are attached hereto and made a part hereof, and whereas existing physical deterioration impairs neighborhood revitalization, economic values, and tax revenues of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City and the Authority established the Façade Improvement Program (the “Program”) to assist projects that promote retail activity, create an attractive environment, encourage high-quality architectural design, use high-quality materials, and enhance neighborhood character; and

WHEREAS, the City and the Authority have determined that the Program furthers the purpose of promoting economic development; will result in substantial benefits to the welfare of the City and its inhabitants; is in the public interest; and serves governmental interests, including but not limited to an increase in tax receipts, elimination of blight, and prevention of neighborhood deterioration; and

WHEREAS, to meet economic development goals and serve the public and government interests, the City and the Authority desire to establish and implement the Program on Hull Street; and

WHEREAS, at the City's request, the Authority will undertake certain activities in the implementation of the Program, pursuant to established Policies and Procedures, from time to time; and

WHEREAS, the City is providing funds in the amount of \$250,000 derived from a portion of the City's allocation of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARPA") pursuant to the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement and as authorized by the federal American Rescue Program Act ARPA for the purpose of establishing and implementing the Program on Hull Street; and

WHEREAS, the City and the Authority agree to work together to jointly implement the Program; and

WHEREAS, the City is authorized by Section 15.2-953 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, and other laws, and the Authority is authorized by the industrial Development and revenue Bond Act, Chapter 49, Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia and other laws to perform the activities contemplated in the Cooperation Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the benefits to accrue to the City and its citizens from the implementation of the Program, and of the mutual covenants hereinafter set forth, the City and the Authority agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS. The following words and terms used in this Agreement have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(a) **Agreement** shall mean this Program Cooperation Agreement, as amended

and restated, from time to time.

(b) **Area** shall mean those areas of the City as described above or as modified by the City from time to time.

(c) **Façade Improvements** shall mean the projects described herein which satisfy the conditions and requirements of this Agreement.

(d) **Program Fund** shall mean that account established in accordance with this Agreement, containing all funds from any source related to the Program.

2. FUNDING. The City agrees to transfer to the Authority the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) as described in the budget, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, as Exhibit “2”, to allow the Authority to implement the Program.

3. GRANTS. Grants shall be available only to the extent that funding is available and the façade grant assistance shall not exceed Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) on any one building. A Notice for Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is shown as Exhibit “3” which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. No applicant will be eligible to receive the maximum allowable grant amount until completion of the renovation of the Façade Improvements. The City’s Department of Planning and Development Review staff will review and approve grant requests and will maintain accounting records.

(a) **Grant Amount.** The Authority will grant matching funds of 50% of private investment in façade improvement, up to \$40,000.00 maximum, based on the location, size, and number of discrete storefronts associated with each building eligible for the Program.

(b) **Eligibility Requirements.**

- (i) The property must be located on Hull Street within the zones identified in “Exhibit 1.A” and “Exhibit 1.B”.
 - (ii) Applicants must agree to pay an amount of 100% of the total cost associated with the Façade Improvements prior to the receipt of any grant funds. The applicant shall pay all costs over and above the maximum grant amount.
 - (iii) A completed application and a signed grant agreement between the applicant(s) and the Authority must be on file prior to commencement of the work to be performed.
 - (iv) All applicants who are selected to receive a grant must pay a non-refundable grant processing fee.
 - (v) All work must be performed by a licensed contractor with a valid City of Richmond business license.
 - (vi) Participants in the Program shall not be eligible for an Exterior Rebate under the Authority’s CARE or ExtraCARE program. A participant in the Program may, however, be eligible for the CARE or ExtraCARE Program’s Security or Interior Rebates.
- (c) Participants in the Program shall obligate all Grant Funds by September 30, 2024 and shall expend all Grant Funds by December 31, 2024. Should the Participant not expend all Grant Funds by December 31, 2024 it shall return to the Authority all of the Grant Funds not so expended within 30 days. This section 3(c) will survive expiration or termination of this Agreement.

4. CITY UNDERTAKINGS.

- 5.** The City’s Department of Planning and Development Review shall collect, review and approve

the Program applications and facilitate the overall operation of the Program, which will include providing staff, preparing agreements, making periodic site monitoring visits to monitor progress of work, assisting with grant processing, maintaining and providing to Venture appropriate documentation, and maintaining appropriate accounting records.

6. INFORMATION SHARING. The Authority, upon request, agrees to provide the Chief Administrative Office or a designee thereof access to copies of all correspondence relating to its activities to be performed under this Agreement and will keep the Chief Administrative Officer fully and timely informed of all developments relating to the preparation and planning of the project. The Authority shall keep a record of all grants including names of grant recipients, grant terms and amounts, and nature of improvements funded. The City shall monitor the Authority records on an annual basis, and the Chief Administrative Officer, City Attorney, the City Auditor and their designees shall have access to such records during normal business hours upon reasonable notice.

7. BUDGET AND VENTURE EXPENSES. The Authority agrees that it will adhere to the budget contained within Exhibit 2 that is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The budget will be reviewed at least annually by the Chair of the Authority or a designee thereof and the Chief Administrative Officer of the City of Richmond or a designee thereof. Any increase in the budget shall be subject to approval by City Council and appropriation of the necessary funds. The budget will contain existing funds, any unencumbered amounts within the Program Fund and anticipated revenues from activities undertaken for the current Fiscal Year.

8. GENERAL PROJECT FUND. The Authority agrees that funds transferred by the City to the Authority for the Program shall be deposited by the Authority in a designated Program Fund to be used only in accordance with this Agreement. The Authority agrees to transfer to the Program Fund any funds received from any source as a result of

this Program, including, but not limited, to income and interest earned against the Program Fund.

9. AUTHORITY LIABILITY. It is the intent of the parties not to impose upon the Authority any responsibility other than what may be required to implement the Program under this Agreement. Accordingly, the Authority does not assume any responsibility or liability whatsoever except as specifically stated herein. Should any liability accrue to the Authority, which is not specifically addressed in this Agreement, the Authority shall not be required to expend its funds derived from sources other than the Program Fund to discharge such liability. The Authority is hereby authorized to expend such funds from the Program Fund as may be necessary to protect the assets of the Authority and to prevent the entry of a default judgment against the Authority. If a lawsuit involving the Program is filed or expected to be filed against the Authority, the Authority shall immediately notify the City Attorney and Chief Administrative Officer. The parties acknowledge that the Authority has no general fund revenue and that each Program the Authority undertakes is subject to such program's own independent financial resources and limitations.

10.ACCOUNTING AND AUDIT. The Authority shall keep records of its financial transactions, if any, for the projects described herein in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The City and the Authority agree that the Authority may engage the services of an independent auditor to conduct an annual audit of the financial transactions, if any, undertaken for the projects described herein. Such audit shall comply in all respects with generally accepted accounting principles. The City Auditor shall have access to the independent auditor's work papers. In addition, the City Auditor or his designee may at any time audit the financial transactions undertaken under this Agreement. The Authority shall cooperate to assure that the independent

external auditor and the City Auditor are granted reasonable access on a timely basis to all books and records of any party necessary to complete such audits and will require appropriate provisions in furtherance of this objective in any contracts required under this Agreement. The Authority shall make available an annual audited report on the Program Fund to the City's Chief Administrative Officer, upon request, within one hundred twenty (120) days after the end of its fiscal year. Failure to make available an annual audited report as provided herein shall be considered a material breach of this Agreement and provide cause for termination of the Agreement. The Authority further agrees and shall cause Program Participants to agree to any audits as may be required in connection with ARPA funding and agrees to fully cooperate with the City in connection with any such audits.

11. REPORTING. The Authority shall require that Program Participants:

- A. Maintain detailed records regarding all expenditures pertaining to the Grant.
- B. Provide quarterly reports regarding the status of each activity included within the Scope of Services: Not Started, Completed less than 50 percent, Completed 50 percent or more, or Completed.
- C. Provide an annual report throughout the term of this Contract, providing a narrative description of each activity included in the Scope of Services. The Recipient shall include in each narrative description:
 - 1. Anecdotal evidence, stories, or testimony pertaining to each activity
 - 2. Key performance indicators identified by the Recipient and any mandated performance indicators identified by United States Treasury Department together with reporting on how the Recipient plans to ensure that projected outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, and equitable manner.

D. Complete any additional forms or reports and provide any additional information that may be reasonably required by the City.

E. Maintain all books, records, and other documents relating to this Agreement for five years following expiration of this Agreement.

12. AUTHORITY CONTRACTS. The Authority may, within the approved budget, contract without the City's prior approval for services deemed by the Authority to be necessary to undertake and carry out its responsibilities under this Agreement.

13. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING. The Authority acknowledges and Program Participants shall acknowledge that certain eligible activities are allowable uses of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021("ARPA"). Program Participants agree to conduct their activities in accordance with ARPA and will abide by all federal laws, rules, regulations, and guidance applicable thereto. Should the Program Participant's use of the Funds be determined ineligible for ARPA funding, such Program Participant shall repay all Funds to the Authority. Funds shall not be used for political activities; inherently religious activities, such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization; or lobbying activities. This section 12 will survive expiration of this Agreement.

14. AUTHORITY BOND. The Authority shall not be required to furnish the City a blanket corporate fidelity bond surety covering all officers and employees of the Authority capable of authorizing disbursements of funds or handling funds received or disbursed by the Authority from the City or any other party involved in any activities undertaken pursuant to this Agreement.

15. GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement and the performance thereof shall be governed, interpreted, construed, and regulated by the laws of the Commonwealth of

Virginia.

16. NOTICES. Any notices required to be given under this Agreement shall be sufficient if in writing and sent by first class, registered or certified mail, return receipt requested; if to the Authority, to its Chair at 1500 East Main Street, Suite 400 Richmond, VA 23219, or if to the City, to its Chief Administrative Officer at City Hall, 900 East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219 with a copy to the City Attorney, 900 East Broad Street, Suite 400, Richmond, Virginia 23219. Either party may change its address for purposes of notice by giving notice to the other in accordance with this paragraph.

17. NO ASSIGNMENT. This Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the successors and permitted assigns of the parties hereto; provided, however, that in no event may this Agreement or any of the rights, benefits, duties or obligations of the parties hereto be assigned, transferred or otherwise disposed of without the prior written consent of the other, which consent neither party shall be obligated to give.

18. MODIFICATIONS. This Agreement may be amended, modified and supplemented only by the written consent of both the City and the Authority preceded by all formalities required as prerequisites to the signature by each party of this Agreement.

19. NOTHIRD PARTY RIGHTS. No third-party rights are created by this Agreement.

20. TERMINATION. Either party may terminate this Agreement with or without cause at any time upon reasonable written notice. Upon termination, the Authority shall transfer to the City all assets held under this Agreement, including receivables, and shall cooperate in transferring any outstanding grant commitments to the City.

21. EXPIRATION. This Agreement shall expire on December 31, 2024.

SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW

Witness the following signatures and seals:

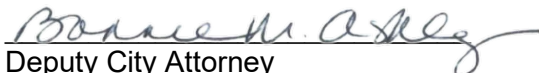
CITY OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

A Municipal Corporation of the Commonwealth
Of Virginia

By:

J.E. Lincoln Saunders
Chief Administrative Officer

Approved as to Form:


Deputy City Attorney

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA**

A Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth
Of Virginia

By:

John S. Molster
Chairman

Façade Improvement Program – Hull Street Target Areas

Exhibit 1.A



Exhibit 1.B



EXHIBIT 2

FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET FY 2023

Hull Street			
Program Income		Total	
City	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	
Application Fees*	\$ 1800	\$ 1800	
Total Income	\$ 251,800	\$ 251,800	
Program Activity		Total	
Grants	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	
Arch & Engineering Services	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	
PDR Administration*	\$ 1800	\$ 1800	
Technical Assistance	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	
Neighborhood Development	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	
Pre Development	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	
Marketing	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	
Venture Administration*	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	
TOTAL	\$ 251,800	\$ 251,800	

*Application Fees are \$150. Budget estimates that no more than 12 applications will be received in FY2022-3. Application fees are retained by the City to help cover administrative costs associated with the Program. Actual number of applications and fees may vary.

EXHIBIT 3

**FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**

NOFO to be attached here as EXHIBIT 3



Richmond's Hull Street Façade Improvement Program

A Placemaking Initiative of the Department of Planning & Development Review

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Dear Hull Street owner/tenant:

The City of Richmond, Virginia is pleased to now be accepting Façade Improvement Program (FIP) grant applications for the Hull Street Corridor.

Application Related Dates

Day to Start Receiving Application: TBD

Application Deadline:

Applications received after TBD will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the grant funds are exhausted.

Total project budget: \$250,000

Award Announcements:

Award announcements will be communicated via e-mail and/or phone.

Project Completion Deadline:

Refer to Award Announcement Letter if you receive an award for the deadline by which the project must start and be completed.

IMPORTANT to note:

No fee is required to apply for this NOFO. An application fee of \$150 will be collected after you received your award letter.

Contact Facades@Richmondgov.com with any questions

Background

The Façade Improvement Program (FIP) provides grants to property owners and tenants located within the Arts & Cultural District to improve their building façades. The Department of Planning & Development Review (PDR) and the Economic Development Authority (EDA) of the City of Richmond have managed and administered this program since 2013. The City has supported 35 grants to owners and tenants to improve their building façades.

Figure 1.A & 1.B These maps show the boundary of the FIP Hull Street Zones. You must be located inside these boundaries to be eligible for FIP funding.



1.A



1.B

Project Intent and Project Goals

- Restore, beautify, & enhance façades of commercial or mixed-use buildings within the Hull Street Corridor
- Fund projects that significantly improve the visual appearance of the entire facade from the street
- Improve the aesthetic of commercial corridors which face challenges associated with vacant and underutilized properties

General Criteria

- Complete building façade renovation/rehabilitation (Not intended for minor repairs/maintenance)
- Projects that promote retail activity, create an attractive environment, encourage high-quality architectural designs, use high-quality materials, and enhance neighborhood character

Applicant Eligibility Requirements

- Property owners of commercial/mixed-use structures
- Building tenants with at least a one-year lease
- Governmental entities, public, and quasi-public authorities are ineligible for funding

- The building must be used in whole or in part for service or commercial activities
- Applicants cannot start on project prior to receiving all necessary approvals
- If work begins prior to application or approval, FIP funds cannot be used
- Non-commercial buildings, e.g., churches, 100% residential, are ineligible for this Program
- Applicants are eligible once every two fiscal years

Eligible Costs

- Restore historic façades
- Remove existing façade materials, replace with more appropriate, attractive designs and materials
- Architectural lighting of building façade
- Updates which substantially enhance the buildings appearance
- Design and permit fees are eligible for reimbursement

Eligible Activity As part of Larger Project

The following may be funded as part of a comprehensive improvement effort:

- ✓ windows
- ✓ doors
- ✓ exterior cleaning
- ✓ tuck pointing
- ✓ painting
- ✓ shutters
- ✓ gutters
- ✓ awnings

Ineligible Costs

- New construction
- Repair or replacement of existing roof
- Work to an alley façade
- Work that principally involves minor repairs or maintenance
- Billboards
- Landscaping
- Paving

Program Requirements

- Begin work within 30 days of approval
- Complete work within 120 days of starting
- Extensions may be granted if requested and approved in writing
- Applicant shall comply with all applicable provisions of City of Richmond Ordinances

Program Outline

- Grants will be provided in an amount up to 50% of the total project cost, based on the table below.

Building Location	1-2 Story	3-4 Story	Notes
Interior of Block	\$10,000	Additional \$5,000 each of FLRs. 3-4	Maximum grant amount: \$20,000
Corner Building	\$20,000	Additional \$10,000 each for FLRs. 3-4	Maximum grant amount: \$40,000
Special Exceptions for Multiple Storefronts	\$10,000 per discrete storefront address	Additional \$5,000/FLR for Interior Building Additional \$10,000/FLR for Corner Building	Maximum grant amount: \$40,000

- The applicant must use private, non-City funds to match the City's Grant.
- Applicant must pay for work and submit receipts/lien waivers to City
- Receipts and final site visit are required before issued reimbursement

Processing

- (1) Apply before the deadline;
- (2) Staff conduct a site visit;
- (3) Award communicated;
- (4) Pull permits and order materials;
- (5) Begin construction;
- (6) Complete project
- (7) Submitted reimbursement request with contractor invoices and proof of payment
- (8) Grant Reimbursement Completed.

How to Apply for this NOFO

Submit application package to Facades@rva.com

Tenants must include a copy of the lease and written approval from owner.

The application package must include:

- 1) A COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM
- 2) TENANT APPLICANTS:
 - a. Copy of your lease or land contract
 - b. Letter providing the property owner's written authorization of your proposal;

OR:

OWNER APPLICANTS:

 - a. Copy of property deed
- 3) PHOTOGRAPHS of existing façade conditions
- 4) DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK and exterior rehabilitation, including a general construction schedule
- 5) DESIGN DRAWINGS, product samples, and further rehabilitation details as needed

- 6) No fee is required to apply for this NOFO (\$150 grant processing fee will be collected from selected applicants)
- 7) Send a PDF of the entire application packet to: Facades@Richmondgov.com

Evaluation Criteria:

Prioritization is given to façade improvements based on the following criteria:

Creates a High-Quality Sense of Place

- 1) Projects with façade improvements of high quality design and/or value based on recognized professional standards or best practices

Promote History & Ensure Safety

- 2) Projects that align with design standards established for a neighborhood, when applicable, which may include historic preservation
- 3) Projects in underappreciated commercial blocks of the Hull Street Corridor
- 4) Projects that incorporate design elements to prevent crime such as but not limited to nighttime lighting, windows looking onto streets and parking lots, etc.

Expand Equity & Grow a Diverse Economy

- 5) Projects that support small business retention and/or expansion in the Hull Street Corridor
- 6) Priority will be given to support emerging small businesses and minority business enterprises
- 7) Projects that offer the potential for job creation
- 8) Projects with the potential to provide employment opportunities available to local residents through workforce training programs and the creation of sustainable jobs
- 9) *Projects that have a clear construction timeline and can be completed within a year*

Useful Links:

FIP Webpage:

<https://www.rva.gov/planning-development-review/facade-improvement-program>

FIP GIS Story Map:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/f76e3a6df6394049a3027ba793ebd2a2>

The application form can be found at the FIP webpage provided above.

Thank you,

City of Richmond VA