



Vibrancy Grant Program

Purpose

The Village of Suring established the Vibrancy Grant Program in order to promote renovations to the exterior of commercial buildings within the Village of Suring. The program is designed to enhance building appearance, promote a unique sense of place, and preserve individual buildings and the significance of the historic area and Main Street.

Program Goals

1. Provide financial assistance to business and property owners to make revitalization efforts affordable.
2. Improve the attractiveness of the Village with quality design principles that enhance and preserve its historical significance.
3. Maintain and increase existing property values within the target area and the surrounding neighborhood.
4. Promote commercial vitality and increase economic activity.
5. Establish high levels of maintenance for a sustainable commercial district.

Maximum Grant Amount

Awarded grants will cover up to \$250 of a business or property owner's improvement project. The grant requires a 50-50 match.

Eligibility

The Vibrancy Grant program is available to all commercial buildings located in the Village.

All applicants must agree to comply with the design guidelines administered by the Village of Suring Staff.

Ineligible Buildings

Ineligible properties include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Buildings less than 20 years old (some exceptions may apply)
2. Buildings not within the Village of Suring
3. Tax delinquent properties & tax-exempt properties
4. Exclusively residential properties
5. Properties in litigation, mediation, condemnation, or receivership
6. Properties with outstanding code violation orders (unless these are corrected as part of the project)

Design Requirements

All façade improvements must be consistent with the Village of Suring Design Guidelines.

The grant program focuses on façade projects that protect the historic integrity of the buildings and improve the overall appearance of the village. Building facades should reflect their appearance following their initial construction; however, it is recognized that some buildings may have a different period of architectural significance that supersedes the original construction appearance. Ideal projects will retain or repair original features and use historic materials. For example, repairing a building's original wood siding and masonry would receive grant funds, but covering or replacing these historic materials with new vinyl siding would not qualify.

Projects should draw upon the history and architecture of the building while still reflecting the current use. The intent involves expressing the distinctive character of the building and Main Street to enhance their overall atmosphere and value, not to recreate a past time in the history of the Village of Suring. Creative new uses for existing building stock will be strongly encouraged, as well as contemporary architectural design features compatible with surrounding Village character and design set by the Village of Suring staff.

Eligible Activities

Street facing facades are the priority of the program

1. Awnings/Canopies
2. Window Replacement/Repair
3. Materials (Construction)
4. Masonry Work
5. Architectural Detail Replacement/Repair
6. Entrances
7. Permanent Exterior Lighting
8. Outdoor amenities (i.e. seating, dining areas)
9. Painting/Staining

10. Permanent Signs (banners are excluded)

Funds will only be provided for projects that conform to all Village of Suring and WI zoning, permitting and licensing requirements, along with necessary requests form Village of Suring staff throughout the approval process.

Ineligible Activities

1. Interior Work & Furnishings
2. Side and Rear Rehabilitation (Exceptions may apply)
3. Roof Repairs (Regular Maintenance)
4. Construction of New Buildings
5. Purchase of Property
6. Equipment
7. Demolition
8. Inventory or Operating Capital
9. Inappropriate Cleaning Methods
10. Structural foundations, billboards, security systems, non-permanent fixtures, interior window coverings, security bars, and awnings considered business advertising.
11. Routine Building Maintenance and Repair (The cost of incidental repairs which neither materially add to the value of the property nor appreciably prolong the life, but keep it in an ordinarily efficient operating condition)
12. Work done before the approval of an application

Approval Process

1. An official application containing all requested information must be submitted by the property owner/applicant to the Village of Suring Clerk/Treasurer.
2. Staff will review the application and meet with the owner/applicant to discuss the concept design for the project and the process and program agreements for obtaining grant fund approval.
3. The application and its supporting materials will go through the appropriate Village of Suring approval process. It is encouraged that all involved parties attend the necessary meetings involved in the approval process to improve the prospect of receiving grant funds.
4. Upon grant funding approval, the business/property owner must obtain a building permit from the Village of Suring before the start of the project.
5. All project construction must be completed within one year of obtaining a building permit to receive grant funds.

6. Once construction is completed, owner/applicant must provide any necessary final documentation (detailed costs, receipts, pictures, etc.) requested by the Village of Suring staff in lieu of grant funding approval.
7. All approved grant funds will be distributed within six weeks of receiving final documentation.

Application Deadline: April 1 or September 1 of each year.

For examples of eligible projects, see appendix A at the end of the document.



Vibrancy Grant Application

Applicant/Business Owner Name: _____

Applicant Address (street, unit): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Business/Property Address: _____

Name of Business: _____

Provide a Brief Description of the Business: _____

Legal Entity of Applicant: Sole Proprietorship___ Partnership ___ Corporation ___ LLC ___

Other: _____ ***If Applicant is not the Property Owner:***

Property Owner Name: _____

Owner Address (street, unit): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Proposed Project Cost Estimates

List the Contractors who will be doing the work and a breakdown of the cost estimates for each of the major components of this project. If the applicant is performing the work, attach a supplier's estimate for materials to demonstrate the estimated cost for each component:

Item	Contractor	Estimated Cost
Awning and Canopy		
Entranceway		
Exterior Lighting		
Electrical		
Landscaping		
Painting and/or Staining		
Removal of non-Historic/non-Original Elements		
Replacement/Addition of Architectural Elements		
Window Replacement		
Masonry		
Exterior Surface Cleaning		
Other (Specify):		
Other (Specify):		
Other (Specify):		
Other (Specify):		
Total Estimated Cost:		
Grant Amount Requested:		

Proposed Starting Date: ____/____/____ Proposed Completion Date: ____/____/____

Additional Submittal Requirements:

The following check list of materials must be provided along with the application form.

- _____ Recent pictures showing the current building conditions.
- _____ Historic photographs and information (if available).
- _____ Description of proposed improvements.
- _____ Scale elevation drawings detailing alterations, colors, materials, architectural additions, and/or other improvements being proposed.
- _____ Contractor cost estimates and contact information.
- _____ If the project is being pursued by a tenant, written approval from the property owner and evidence of leasehold interest must be provided. The property owner must also sign this application.

I have read and understand the process and rules to receive the Village of Suring Vibrancy Grant Program funds. I understand that failure to abide by the outlined process and rules will result in denial of funds. I understand that should the project be found not in compliance with the original application and proposal as submitted and approved, I may be denied issuance of the grant program funds. The undersigned applicant(s) affirms that the information submitted is accurate to the best of my knowledge. If selected to receive funding from the Vibrancy Grant Program, I will follow all requirements and design guidelines provided by the Village of Suring.

Applicant

Signed: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Property Owner (if not the above)

Signed: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Appendix A

