



GOVANSTOWNE

BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Application

Govanstowne Business Association Community Legacy (GBA-CL) Grant

The Govanstowne Business Association has been awarded state funding for improvements to GBA Businesses! (Grants up to \$5,000.00; Low-interest loans up to \$25,000.00)

Business Name/Address: _____

Applicant's Name/Address: _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____ e-mail _____

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Property Owner (if other than applicant): I hereby certify that I am the owner of this building/land on which the proposed project is situated, and that the foregoing applicant, in filing a CL application for approval by GBA, is acting with my knowledge and consent.

Property Owner's Name: _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____ e-mail _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

❖ Brief description of improvement (exterior work and/or interior public areas):

❖ Amount of grant/loan requested? Grant: _____ Low-interest Loan _____

❖ Would you like architectural design assistance for façade improvements?
Yes _____ No _____

❖ Would you like to also apply for a Façade Improvement Grant (up to \$3,000.00)? This is a program of the Commercial Revitalization Division of the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) and may be used as matching funds for GBA-CL, by eligible businesses on a case-by-case basis.
Yes _____ No _____

- ❖ Please Attach:
- Current photographs of existing conditions, including full front façade elevation, street views showing adjacent structures, street view across the street, Photograph assistance available.
 - Cost estimate (we reserve the right to request more than one estimate).
 - Design drawings, if applicable (if using the Main Street Architect, this may be submitted separately).

ARE YOU INTERESTED OR NEED ASSISTANCE?
Please contact the GBA Executive Director, 410-433-8289, govanstowne@aol.com.

Information

Govanstowne Business Association Community Legacy (GBA-CL) Grant

Proposed Project Qualifications:

- The GBA-CL program is available for existing commercial businesses and properties in the Govanstowne Business District, located between 43rd Street and the City-County line along York Road. It is also available for those businesses relocating into the GBA business district.
- The GBA-CL program cannot be used more than once in a one-year period for the same property.
- The GBA-CL program cannot be used for new construction, acquisition, residential properties, or for work begun prior to receiving a GBA-CL Commitment Letter from GBA.
- GBA business member applicants must be in good standing with City RBDL collections, with no outstanding Retail Business District License fee (RBDL) accounts.
- The GBA-CL program cannot be used for properties that are not in compliance with applicable zoning and urban renewal plans, unless the GBA-CL grant will bring the property into compliance.

The GBA-CL is a Reimbursable Matching Grant Program

The applicant pays for all of the work initially; GBA reimburses the applicant after the work is completed, consistent with the scope of work agreed upon in the application. All projects must be reviewed/approved by Maryland Historic Trust (MHT) and GBA prior to construction. If a BDC Façade Improvement Grant (FIG) is also applied for, qualifying applicants may use FIG funds to match the GBA-CL funds, and must be reviewed/approved by BDC.

Design Guidelines

The proposed design must be approved by the ***GBA Design/Streetscape Review Committee and MHT***.

1. The project should make a noticeable contribution to the revitalization of the York Road business district.
2. Signs, ground floor windows and doors, lighting, and other decorative elements should be designed to appeal to pedestrians.
3. The distinguishing original qualities and character of the building shall be preserved; removal of historical or distinctive architectural features may disqualify a project. Deteriorated architectural features should be repaired rather than replaced; if replacement is necessary, the new materials should match the materials being replaced in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities.
4. Contemporary design for alterations to existing properties is acceptable if such alterations do not destroy significant historical, architectural, and cultural materials of the building and if such design is compatible with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property and adjacent buildings.

Application Review Timeframe

Once a GBA-CL Grant/Loan Application is submitted, the GBA will forward a copy to MHT and respond to applicant as soon as possible (within goal of 30 days). MHT approval must be received prior to any signed agreement. If the proposed project is approved by both GBA and MHT, a GBA-CL Commitment Letter will be sent from the GBA outlining amount of funds granted. If information is needed, or there are design concerns, the letter will list items to be addressed.

Permitting and Code Requirements

Contractors must secure required building permits and minor privilege permits and complete the project in accordance with all applicable codes, ordinances, applicable PUD or URP regulations and standard engineering practices. Contractors must be properly registered, licensed, insured, and pass a debarment check as required by law.

Construction Timeframe

Construction must begin within 30 days after the GBA-CL Letter of Commitment agreement is signed by the applicant, and be complete within 60 days thereafter, unless otherwise approved in writing by the GBA and MHT.

Change Orders

The GBA must approve all change orders in writing. Change orders will not increase the grant amount.

Maintenance of Improvements

As part of the grant agreement, the applicant shall agree in writing to maintain all improvements made per the approved plans in their finished state for a period of five years following completion of the project.