

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT USING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS

The City of Columbia receives an annual entitlement of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD awards these funds to help cities to develop viable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and ability to expand economic opportunities, principally, for low- and moderate-income persons.

The City of Columbia funded the Main/North Main Façade Improvement Program using a portion of its annual CDBG award. By using CDBG dollars, the City is able to offer forgivable loans and grants that do not have to be repaid if the façade improvements are maintained for three (3) years. The City’s ability to offer this type of program to businesses in our current economy has definitely been well appreciated by façade participants.

Within the City, CDBG funds are administered through the Community Development Department. The OBO is allocated funds from Community Development to administer the program.



2965 N Main

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“CDBG is an important tool for helping local governments tackle serious challenges facing their communities.”

US Department of Housing & Urban Development

6102 N Main



**BUILD COLUMBIA**  
The Blueprint for a World Class City

## Façade Improvement Program

### Main/North Main Street Corridor 2012-2014 (2100 Main—6900 North Main Street)

#### Helping Neighborhood Businesses

Neighborhood businesses, such as those found on the Main/North Main Street corridor, are essential to any world class city. They provide important goods and services for residents, contribute to quality of life, and are critical to our local economy.

The City launched the Façade Improvement Program on this corridor, with the intent of helping to promote the marketability of these neighborhood businesses by attracting new business owners, tenants, and customers, as well as retaining already successful establishments.

While some businesses have moved over the years, the corridor boasts of many long standing businesses and icons, such as Arnold’s Professional Garment Care, Zesto, Carolina Paint and Body, and Blue Ribbon Cab, which have all been in business over 20 years!

Additionally, new businesses have ventured to make the corridor their home in the past couple of years, including Sweet Temptations Bakery, Vino Garage, and Carolina Kernels.

Recognizing the critical importance of marketing retail businesses, the City also offered marketing assistance through ECI-Find New Markets, to help businesses develop or update their social media presence this year.

2501 Main



It is anticipated that we will see continued economic growth on North Main Street, especially with the upcoming streetscaping!

Tina Herbert

The City of Columbia’s Façade Improvement Program (FIP) aims to improve the appearance of commercial corridors throughout the city that are significantly deteriorated. Through this program, business owners are able to make improvements to the front, exterior portion of commercial buildings that can be seen from the public right-of-way. To date, the City has invested \$298,468 into over 30 projects on the Main/North Main Corridor.

#### Program Structure:

##### Forgivable Loan

- ♦ 3-year Term
- ♦ 80%/20% Match
- ♦ Maximum City Investment per Façade \$10,000
- ♦ Interior Improvements are not Eligible
- ♦ 1/3 of loan forgiven each year

##### Forgivable Grant

- ♦ 2-year Term
- ♦ Maximum Grant Amount is \$1999.99
- ♦ No Match Required
- ♦ Interior Improvements are not Eligible

#### Eligible Improvements:

Awnings	Lighting
Carpentry and Masonry Repair	Paint
Doors & Windows	Roofing
Iron Bar Removal/Disposal	Signage
Landscaping – Trees ONLY	Fencing
Security Camera Monitoring System	





North Main Corridor Gets a Lift

North Main Corridor Gets a Lift

Façade Program Highlights

Amount of Public Investment	\$ 289,398
Amount of Private Investment	\$ 369,121
<b>Total Amount of Investment (Public &amp; Private)</b>	<b>\$ 658,520</b>
Other Private Investment*	\$ 380,350
# of Forgivable Grants	6
# of Forgivable Loans	25
# of Jobs New/Retained	178
# of New Businesses	3
# of Awardees Receiving Technical Assistance from ECI	8

\* Additional private investment made along the corridor by property owners, not part of the Façade Improvement Program.

North Main	Street @ I-20	
6900		
6400		Blue Ribbon Taxi Company
6100		Toliver's Mane Event
5700		Northview Plaza
5300		Kimberly's Beauty & Barber Salon
5200		Dr. Benjamin Thomas, DMD Sonya's Total Hair Care Thomas & Associates Realty Colonial Realty
4800		Kim's Beauty & Variety Store
4400		Virginia Spigner's Hair Designs North Main Cutz
4200		Lenoir/Rhyne Lutheran Seminary
4000		Kleen Kare Dry Cleaners Zesto
3700		Hiott Building
3600		E. Marion Enterprises
3500		Solomon Law Group
3400		Cashion Electricians
3300		Rose of Sharon Gifts
3000		Classical Glass
2900		In the House Realty
2600		Arnold's Professional Garment Care Appliance Sales and Service
2500		Frank's Carwash DER Kitchens
2300		Sweet Temptations Bakery
2100		
Elmwood Avenue	@ Main Street	



3031 N Main



5322 N Main



**Small and Local Businesses Benefit**

The City has a commitment to small and local businesses. The list below shows all of the contractors that have been awarded work through the façade program. As an incentive, the City offers applicants additional points in the review process if they offered an opportunity to bid to female and/or minority owned businesses.(\*)

AA-ARK Home Repair/Heating & Air	Fast Signs	Medcon Services
ADM Signs	Flagship Signs	Palmetto State Glass
Bardin Builders	Frazier Signs & Design*	Perez Masonry & Stamped Concrete*
Binswanger Glass	Fresh Printing*	Perfect Printing
Blackseal	Full House Repairs/Renovations*	Purvis Custom Homes
Brookgreen Landscaping	Garris Masonry	R & J Masonry*
Burkett Systems, Inc.	Gordon Stucco	R E Painting*
C & C Roofing	GTG, LLC	Seabrook Construction*
C & A Stucco	Irving Spigner Masonry*	SignItQuick
Capitol Flooring, Inc.	Jenkins Electric*	Signs2Go
Carbra Construction*	JJ Rez Masonry/Concrete	SignsNow
CertaPro Painting	Landscape	Stucco Finishes
David Williams Painting	LLE Construction*	The Metal Works, Inc.
Dirt Cheap Grading	Lungsford Sealcoating & Striping	Tyson Signs
Echerer Painting	Mays Contracting	CBG, Inc.

**Types of Businesses Receiving Awards**

<b>Consumer Services</b> dry cleaners electricians salon supply store small appliance repair taxi service	<b>Retail</b> small appliance sales bakery barber shop beauty salon book store clothing store gift shop restaurant stained glass retail center
<b>Professional Services</b> catering kitchen facility dentist office financial investment company Law practice real estate management tax preparation office	<b>Education</b> institution of higher learning

3701-3711 N Main



6400 N Main

