

Steel Valley Accelerator Façade Grant Program Application Form

Statement of Purpose

The Steel Valley Accelerator Storefront Façade Grant Program intends to positively impact the Steel Valley business districts' look and experience by providing funds to commercial building and business owners to improve their building façades. These improved façades will make the neighborhood shopping district more attractive and inviting to visitors.

Eligibility

The following criteria will be used to determine whether an applicant is eligible for a Steel Valley Accelerator Façade Grant:

1) Area Eligibility: Steel Valley Accelerator Façade Grant projects must be located within the 15120 zip code in designated business district areas. *The pilot phase of this program will be for businesses located in the 8th Avenue commercial corridor in Steel Valley spanning Munhall, Homestead, and West Homestead.*

2) Types of Businesses:

- a) Commercial establishments.
- b) Service establishments.
- c) Professional services (e.g.: doctors, lawyers, accountants, architects, etc.).
- d) Personal services (e.g.: dry cleaners, laundromats, barber and beauty shops, etc.).
- e) Certain repair services (e.g.: office equipment, bicycle, furniture, locksmith, etc.).
- f) Business services (e.g.: advertising, office management, printing, etc.).
- g) **Not eligible:** Banks, savings and loan associations, gas and service stations, used car lots, and adult entertainment establishments are **not** eligible for Steel Valley Accelerator Façade Grant Program.

3) Other Eligibility Requirements:

- a) Owner occupancy is not required. Approval of tenant-initiated projects, however, will be contingent upon the property owner's agreement to adhere to program requirements.
- b) Stakeholder committees within the Steel Valley may be assembled to review the commercial properties within the corridor, and authorization to proceed under the Steel Valley Accelerator façade grant program may be contingent upon a favorable recommendation.

4) Eligible for Grant Reimbursement:

Materials for improvements to the façade of an existing building. These materials may consist of signage, paint, paint supplies, light fixtures, and some other limited façade materials as specifically approved by the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Board.

Parameters of the Grant

1) Grant Amount: Up to \$5,000 for materials reimbursement only. These materials will be reimbursed only after they have been purchased and installed according to all guidelines and instructions given by the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Board.

2) Approved Vendors: Grantees will be required to provide the vendors or businesses from which they intend to purchase materials prior to beginning their work, with any exceptions only being made directly by approval of the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone board.

3) Design Approval: Any façade improvement, light fixtures, signage, or paint colors must be approved by the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone board prior to project beginning and approval. The board reserves the right to require applicants to use design help from an approved outside party.

4) Code and Historic Guidelines: All façade improvement projects must comply with local code guidelines and stay within historic district guidelines where required. By accepting any grant, the applicant takes full legal responsibility for any and all pursuant actions based on the applied for project or any other work completed on the exterior of their property. The applicant releases Steel Valley Enterprise Zone board of any and all responsibility as it pertains to local code, ordinances, or requirements.

Notification

Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Corp reserves the right to:

- 1) Reject any and all applications.
- 2) Notify the appropriate community-based organization of applications received from businesses in their neighborhoods.
- 3) Announce all grant awards publicly.

Additional Information

For additional information, please contact Sarah Fullwood: Sarah@steelvalleyaccelerator.com. You can also find more information on our website, SteelValleyAccelerator.com.

Applicant Information:

Business Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone Number: _____

Business Email: _____

Owner's Name: _____

Owner's Contact Number: _____

Business Description (including years in operation, products/services offered, etc.):

Facility

Information: _____

Type of Building (e.g., commercial, industrial, etc.): _____

Year Built: _____

Square Footage of Building: _____

Current Condition of Building Exterior (brief description): _____

Project Details: _____

Description of Facade Improvement Project (include details on what improvements are planned, materials to be used, etc.): _____

Estimated Cost of Facade Improvement Project: _____

Timeline for Completion of Facade Improvement Project: _____

Supporting Documents: _____

Photos of Current Building Facade (before renovation): _____

Architectural Drawings or Renderings of Proposed Facade Improvements (if available):

Cost Estimates or Bids from Contractors/Suppliers for Facade Improvements: _____

Any Additional Supporting Documents (e.g., permits, approvals, etc.): _____

Declaration:

I, [Business Owner's Name], hereby certify that the information provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information provided may result in disqualification from the Steel Valley Facade Grant Program.

Signature: _____

Date: _____