

## **Application Review Committee and Scoring Criteria for Grant Award**

### ***Review Committee***

Department of Economic Development (DED) staff and a select committee of planning and design professionals will serve as a Review Committee. Applications will be evaluated by the Review Committee and then processed for approval by DED.

Complete applications will be scored by the Review Committee and awards will be based on the strength of proposals, readiness to begin work, and funding availability. Projects that are rated highest will be eligible for funding first. Projects that are equally ranked will be selected based upon the time of receipt of the completed applications.

### ***Scoring Criteria***

The Façade and Streetscape Improvement Review Committee will evaluate applications for eligibility and how effectively they meet the program criteria utilizing a scoring system. A total point score will be based on the sum of the ratings. The program criteria are as follows:

<b><i>LOCATION</i></b> <b><i>40 pts (required min. 5 pts)</i></b>	<b><i>IMPROVEMENTS</i></b> <b><i>15 pts (required min. 5 pts)</i></b>	<b><i>VISUAL IMPACT</i></b> <b><i>35 pts (required min. 10 pts)</i></b>	<b><i>FINANCIAL IMPACT</i></b> <b><i>25 pts (required min. 5 pts)</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements are in the designated areas (15)</li> <li>• Improvements are visible from main roadways (10)</li> <li>• The project includes streetscape and pedestrian improvements within the priority areas (10)</li> <li>• Improvements front on a priority street (5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements will be made to the appearance of the overall site and nearby streetscape (5)</li> <li>• The project includes public safety or site security improvements and/or pedestrian amenities (5)</li> <li>• Permanent building features are improved (5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual clutter and inappropriate design elements are being removed (5)</li> <li>• Project increases site consistency with the context and character of the remainder of the block and/or adjacent properties (5)</li> <li>• The project addresses deteriorated building materials, finishes, dilapidated signs. (5)</li> <li>• The project restores the historical or architectural features of the building (5)</li> <li>• Improvements enhance sense of place by adding highly visual elements to the site or structure (10)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project improves a long vacant or abandoned nonresidential structure (10)</li> <li>• Project applicant is a small business (less than 20 full-time equivalent employees) (5)</li> <li>• The façade project is part of a larger project that improves other exterior or interior parts of the building. (5)</li> <li>• Applicant's project investment exceeds grant reimbursement request by more than 25%. (5)</li> </ul>