Bullock County Development Authority

2021 Community Revitalization Program

Bullock County Development Authority Competitive Program, "Community Revitalization Program" deadline set for April 5, 2021 at 2:00 pm. Applications can be picked up the Bullock County Development Authority located at 106 Conecuh Ave. East (across from Super Dollar).

Please call 334.738.5411 for any questions. Zoom Conference calls will be available for anyone who needs assistance. Please have all documentation in a sealed envelope. BCDA is currently following the COVID-19 Safety Guidelines.

*The deadline is Monday, April 5 at 2:00 pm. You may submit your application any time before the deadline.

Tier 1 (25%) – Completed Application & Grant History

- Have not received grant in the last three years (25 pts)
- Received one grant in the last three years (20 pts)
- Received two grants in the last three years (15 pts)
- Received three grants in the last three years (10 pts)
- Completed application & provided all paperwork (Required)*

Tier 2 (25%) – Employment

- 0 to 2 employees (5 pts)
- 3 to 5 employees (15 pts)
- 6 or more employees (25 pts)

Tier 3 (25%) – Tax Revenue

- $0 - $100 (5 pts)
- $100 - $250 (10 pts)
- $250 - $500 (15 pts)
- $500 - $750 (20 pts)
- $750 & above (25 pts)

Tier 4 (25%) – Growth & Community Development

Determined by Committee (0 - 25 pts)

Required Paperwork:

1. Current Business License
2. Property Tax Information
3. Sales Tax – Last Twelve Months
4. Copy of Insurance
5. Application for Funding Request
6. Letter of Support from Building Owner, if Tenant is Applying
7. Estimate(s) from License Contractor/Vendor

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FROM THE BULLOCK COUNTY RETAIL/SMALL BUSINESS INCENTIVE PROGRAM, TERMED COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

I. Applicants must submit Funding Request Information Sheet. The local committee will establish a time frame for material to be submitted. Funds allotted to the program are to be incentive, or seed money, not major contribution to the project/projects. Funds will be reimbursed after project completion with proper documentation, and an evaluative process will occur. An orientation session is mandatory for applicants seeking grant funding.

II. Applicants must hold a valid/current business license, as required, and be able to provide documentation as a valid/current sales tax payer if applicable.

III. The primary goal of the initiative is to promote local retail development in Bullock County, as expressed in improved tax receipts and employment.

IV. To accomplish this goal the expenditures shall be for the following:
- A. Purchase of real estate upon which to expand existing businesses.
- B. To prepare real estate sites for existing businesses.
- C. To provide for business site infrastructure such as roads and utility services.
- D. Aid in the construction of or furnishing of facilities.
- E. Purchase of equipment.
- F. Aid grant seeking initiative of local government as relates to retail initiatives
- G. The end result of the incentive project should be obvious in the form of facility or service upgrade.

V. The Committee does not believe that its mission is to provide aid or assistance as follows:
- A. To provide working capital, i.e. for salaries, utility bills, rent ongoing maintenance and advertising and inventory.
- B. To provide monetary assistance when the applicant has the ability to acquire the same assistance in the private sector.
- C. Debt relief.
- D. Assistance which causes or may cause a Bullock County entity to obtain a competitive advantage over a competing Bullock County entity.
- E. To non-resident individuals.
- F. Assistance not in the best interest of a majority of Bullock County Citizens.

VI. The committee may recommend that any portion of the request be approved, up to the total amount of said request.

VII. No funds will be released without required documentation, and approval by the committee, the Bullock County Development Authority and the Bullock County Commission.

I have read and understand these guidelines and agree to comply with them. I fully understand that no funds will be released until all documentation and approvals are complete. I also understand that submission of any false information will result in immediate rejection of said project.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

The Commercial Revitalization Program (CRP) provides grant awards to projects that improve established business districts by redeveloping properties, decreasing vacancy rates, adding to the tax base, creating jobs, leveraging private sector investment, and improving the quality of life for surrounding neighborhoods through revitalizing occupied, vacant or underutilized properties.

Eligibility

The Commercial Revitalization Program is made available to the downtown core that provide visible improvements to a building or site, decrease vacancy rates of the area, provide missing retail or service opportunities, retain or create jobs, and/or create new commercial space. The intent of this Program is business development; thus the applicant should be an occupant of the building or a property owner that can demonstrate evidence that the building will be occupied by a business. Additionally, eligible projects must demonstrate that "but for" BCDA investment, the project may not occur.

Eligible projects must have completed the conceptual planning stage and have sufficient documentation to submit for the city's Permitting Division review.

Projects in which physical construction has commenced prior to execution of a Grant Agreement are ineligible. Furthermore, applicants meeting any of the following disqualifying criteria will be ineligible for funding:

A. Unpaid code enforcement liens
B. Unpaid special assignment liens
C. Pending judgment or foreclosure
D. Felony conviction for financial mismanagement of any owners, officers, partners, or principal actors of the applicant within the last five years
E. Mortgage payments three months in arrears
F. Unpaid property taxes
G. Unpaid property insurance

Applicants will submit the required Commercial Revitalization Program application and attachments to the Bullock County Development Authority. Staff will provide technical assistance to applicants throughout the process and will provide information regarding additional resources.

Application packages will be reviewed by Community Revitalization Committee within the BCDA that will evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the applications related to:

A. the location of the project,

B. creation of new commercial space through new construction or renovation of a previously vacant and blighted building,

C. the number of jobs to be created and/or retained by the proposal,

D. the aesthetic improvements of the downtown business corridor.

E. applicant's demonstration that proposed project will benefit the City of Union Springs and Bullock County.

After receiving the evaluation from Committee, a final approval of projects will be made by the BCDA. All applicants will be required to sign a Grant Agreement for the project. Projects must commence in accordance with the timeframes set forth in the Grant Agreement.

Projects will be awarded funding based on the ability to meet all of the following criteria:

1. Must be located in Bullock County.
2. Development either (a) rehabilitates and returns to service a commercial structure or (b) adds new commercial square footage to a building or a business district through new construction or the adaptive reuse of a building formerly used for non-commercial purposes, or (c) removes blight or a declared public nuisance;
3. Visibly improves the exterior building, site, and/or essential interior building systems such as plumbing, electrical, HVAC
4. Architectural and engineering fees as well as permitting and development review fees not included
5. Work must be performed by licensed contractors

BULLOCK COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY'S COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM (CRP)

Components of Program

Funding

1. BCDA determines and makes available funding for community revitalization incentives.
2. Funds allotted to the program are to be incentive, or seed money, not major contributions to the project/projects.
3. Guidelines/specifications will be made available to the public so that interested entities may apply. Based on that criteria, individual entities will submit their application material to BCDA. BCDA staff, along with an appointed BCDA committee will receive and evaluate applications and recommend entrepreneurs to be awarded incentives by BCDA.
4. Incentives may be requested by local individuals seeking to improve their business properties through the program.
5. These will be reimbursable grants, meaning that the individual pays for services and then receives a reimbursement upon submittal of official receipts.

Evaluation

BCDA will monitor and expect oral and written communication from the above entities regarding use or incentives provided. This evaluation material will determine continuation of the Revitalization program.

Attach copy of current business license
Attach documentation as a local sales tax payee

1. Name of Applicant:_____

2. Contact person title, mailing address, e-mail address and telephone number:
_____
_____

3. Reimbursement requested (receipts will be required as a prerequisite to funding):
_____
_____
_____

4. Description of project (give detailed budget). Use additional sheets if necessary for description:
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

5. How will project enhance business?
_____
_____
_____

6. Will employees be added? If so, how many are anticipated?
_____
_____

7. Estimated completion date:
_____
_____

ıereby certify that the above information and any attachments are true and correct.

ıte: _____ Signature_____

Bullock County Development Authority

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING REQUEST

BUSINESS CONTACT INFORMATION

Applicant Name(s):

Company Name:

Phone: Fax: E-mail:

Registered Company Address:

City: State: ZIP Code:

Do Have a Current/Valid Business License:

Sole Proprietorship: Partnership: Corporation: Other:

BUSINESS AND CREDIT INFORMATION

Primary Business Address:

City: State: ZIP Code:

How Long at Current Address?

Telephone: Fax: E-mail:

Primary Bank: Contact Person:

Primary Bank Address: Phone:

City: State: ZIP Code:

Type of account(s): Applicant (1) SSN:

Savings _____ Applicant (2) SSN:

Checking _____ Applicant (3) SSN:

Other _____

FUNDING REQUEST

Amount Requested: $_____

Federal Tax Identification Number:

Date Business Established:

Phone: Fax: E-mail:

Type of Business: _____ Retail _____ Manufacture _____ Service _____ Other

Number of Employees (Current): Number of Employees (Projected to Hire):

Total Cost of Project: $_____

Estimated Completion Date: _____

Phone: Fax: E-mail:

Personal Investment: $_____

Do You Own or Lease Property? _____ OWN _____LEASE If property is leased, please provide the landlord's contact information: Landlord(s) Name: _____

Landlord's Address:

City: State: ZIP Code:

Phone: Fax: E-mail:

Lease Terms: _____ Monthly Rent Amount: _____

AGREEMENT

1. All approved funds are reimbursable upon submitted receipts.
2. No invoices or payments will be accepted prior to written approval made by BCDA.
3. By submitting this application, you authorize Bullock County Development Authority to make inquiries into the banking and business/trade references that you have supplied.

SIGNATURES

Owner (Applicant): ***Owner (Applicant):***

Date: ***Date:***