

2016 / 2017 Façade Grant Program

The Emmaus Main Street Partners would like to announce the Keystone Communities Façade Grant Program for 2016 / 2017. This is a joint effort between the Emmaus Main Street Partners and the Borough of Emmaus, with the Façade Grant Committee overseeing the review of individual applications and the dispersal of funds. The committee is made up of volunteers from the community.

The façade program is open to businesses within the Central Business District (map attached), and covers repair and restoration of a building's prominent façade, including signs (new or existing), paint, and other improvements to the *street-facing exterior* of a building. Grants are awarded based upon eligibility and the compatibility of the renovations with the style and historic character of the existing building. Improvements not covered include landscaping, paving and fencing. There is a dollar for dollar matching requirement from the property owner. For example, if the property requires \$10,000 in actual renovation expenses, then \$5,000 in grant funding would be available (\$5,000 is the maximum grant award per applicant). The total grant application for the community, if awarded, will be for \$50,000, with \$100,000 of total renovation work being done.

Time is of the essence! We are in the process of applying to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for this grant program. Once the grant application is made available, we only have thirty (30) days to submit the full application. This is where we need your immediate attention and assistance! If you are interested in receiving funding assistance, you will need to promptly obtain cost estimates for the work and submit an application to the Façade Committee. These applications must include not only a description of the project, but two contractor cost estimates of the proposed work. The process with the state will likely mean that renovation work would not be able to be started until Spring 2017 at the earliest. Because time is of the essence for you to gather your information and submit your application back to us, please begin planning and preparation immediately. Though we cannot guarantee that Emmaus will be awarded this program, we have been an active participant since 1996, and therefore have a very impressive track record in helping the community with over \$1 million in façade improvements over the past twenty years.

The Emmaus Main Street Partners, Borough of Emmaus, and the Façade Grant Committee are very proud of the improvements that have been made possible in the downtown through these grants. We hope you will decide to participate, as this is an opportunity for you to receive up to \$5,000 in financial assistance for work to your building. For the application, guidelines, and any questions you might have, please contact Alan Hawman via telephone number 610-967-4747, or via email at ahawman@rcn.com. The application and information can also be found at <http://www.borough.emmaus.pa.us/news>.



The business of community.