

CITY CLERK DEPT.
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**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

DEPARTMENT: Economic Development
AGENDA DATE: July 1, 2008 (Regular)
CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: Kathy Dodson, Ph.D., Director 541-4670
DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: 8

SUBJECT:
A Resolution authorizing that \$50,000 from the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 5 (TIRZ No. 5) Fund be transferred to the Façade Grant Program for its continuation as recommended by the TIRZ No. 5 Board (District 8)

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The City of El Paso administers the Façade Grant Program. This program has been very successful and popular, with façade improvements adhering to the design guidelines in the 2015 Plan or Historic design guidelines for eligible properties. Initial funding for the program was \$100,000, with the City of El Paso and the Downtown Management District each designating \$50,000 towards the program. As of June 12, 2008 there is less than \$6,100 left of the original \$100,000 with twelve (12) projects approved and one pending application. Given the program's success and popularity, the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 5 Board recommended using \$50,000 of the TIRZ No. 5 Fund to continue the program. City Council is required to approve recommendations submitted by the TIRZ No. 5 Board pursuant to the ordinance that created TIRZ No. 5 and per Section 311 of the Texas Property Tax Code.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one?
Yes. On September 11, 2007 Council approved the program guidelines and on September 25, 2007 approved an interlocal agreement with the Downtown Management District for the Program.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?
Initial funding was \$100,000 jointly by the City and the DMD with \$50,000. A \$50,000 budget transfer from Account No. 502215 / 07412 / 72153041 / 72000 (TIRZ No. 5 Fund) to 720150035/15462/ PED00002 (Façade Program) is proposed to continue the program once the initial funding runs out.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION:

Enter appropriate comments or N/A.
TIRZ No. 5 Board recommended unanimous approval on June 12, 2008
*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

LEGAL: (if required) _____ **FINANCE:** (if required) _____

DEPARTMENT HEAD: 
(Example: If RCA is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also).
Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:

CITY MANAGER: _____ **DATE:** _____

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City has implemented a Downtown Facade Improvement Program (“the Program”), which currently is jointly funded and administered with the Downtown Management District (“DMD”), and is an incentive program for the Downtown 2015 Plan area; and

WHEREAS, the Program provides matching grants to existing downtown businesses and/or property owners to cure deteriorated conditions and encourage improvement and rehabilitation of their properties and has stimulated redevelopment and reinvestment in the Downtown area for the benefit of El Paso residents; and

WHEREAS, the funding to continue the Program has been depleted following its success within the first six months with thirteen applications having been submitted, with twelve approved grants and six facade improvement projects having been completed; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 5 (TIRZ No. 5) Board in its advisory capacity makes recommendations to City Council regarding the use of the TIRZ No. 5 Tax Increment Fund; and

WHEREAS, the TIRZ No. 5 Board by unanimous vote on June 12, 2008 recommended that City Council approve the use of \$50,000.00 from the TIRZ No. 5 Tax Increment Fund to fund the continuation of the Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO that \$50,000.00 from the TIRZ No. 5 Tax Increment Fund be allocated and transferred to the appropriate City account for its use as grant funding for the Downtown Facade Improvement Program for FY08 and FY09.

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2008.

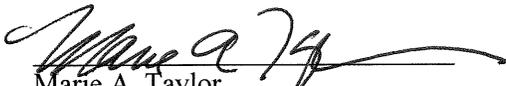
THE CITY OF EL PASO

John F. Cook
Mayor

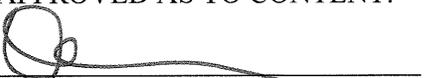
ATTEST:

Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Marie A. Taylor
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:


Kathryn B. Dodson, Ph.D., Director
Economic Development Department

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Façade Improvement Grant Program Funding Request

July 1, 2008

Overview



A grant program for tenants or property owners within the Downtown Plan area and/or the Downtown Management District (DMD) area who make improvements to the façades of properties

- DMD approved program and funding \$50,000 in April 2007
- City Council approved the program and funding \$50,000 on September 25, 2007
- A dollar-for-dollar match grant up to a maximum grant of \$10,000
- Pre-application required.
- Review Committee approves applications. Members include: DMD, Economic Development, Historic Preservation Officer, Building Permits & Inspection & Planning staff.



Facade Improvement Grant Program

- Inquiries Received: 45 total
- Applications: 13 / 12 approved
- Six (6) grant awards disbursed as of June 25, 2008 since grants can only be disbursed upon completion of the work and after inspection of the facade
- Average Grant Amount is \$8,500

Program Balances – Approved Grants

Applicant	Property Address	Total Cost	Grant Amount	Status
Rachelle Nedow	106 E. San Antonio	\$21,000	\$6,010.74	App - Oct. 2
MIMCO, Inc.	304 E. Overland	\$8,500	\$4,250	App - Oct.10
MIMCO, Inc.	320-326 S. El Paso St	\$6,900	\$3,450	App - Oct.10
MIMCO, Inc.	315 S. El Paso St.	\$27,800	\$10,000	App - Oct.10
Barbara & Ken Given	216 E. Overland	\$109,000	\$10,000	App - Dec 18
Hun Seo	504½ W. San Antonio	\$12,067	\$10,000	App - Feb 12
Jose Fong	504 W. San Antonio	\$20,959	\$10,000	App - Feb 1
MIMCO, Inc.	112-122 S. Mesa	\$43,419	\$10,000	App - Jan 24
Harl Dixon	801 - 811 Texas Ave	\$12,000	\$6,000	App - Feb 12
Jorge Hernandez	519 S. Oregon	\$25,021	\$10,000	App-March 4
The El Paso Project, LLC	300 S. Florence	\$900,000	\$10,000	App-March 31
Bobby & Lee Byrd	701 Texas Avenue	\$8,218	\$4,109	App-May 13

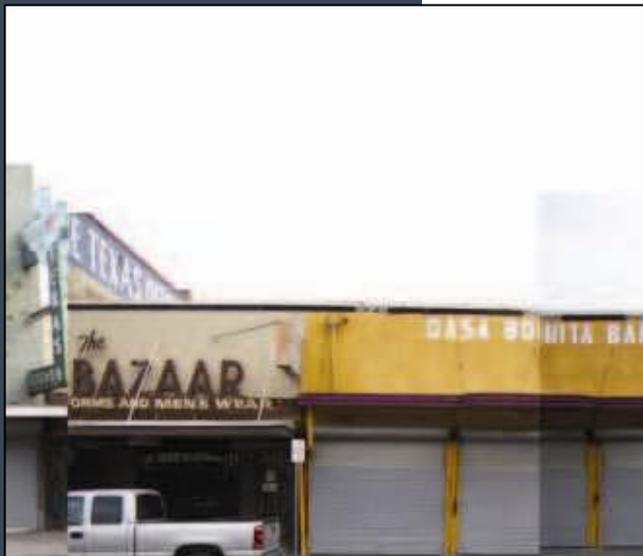


Before



After

304 E. Overland, \$4,250



Before



After



Before



After



Before



After

504 ½ W. San Antonio, \$10,000

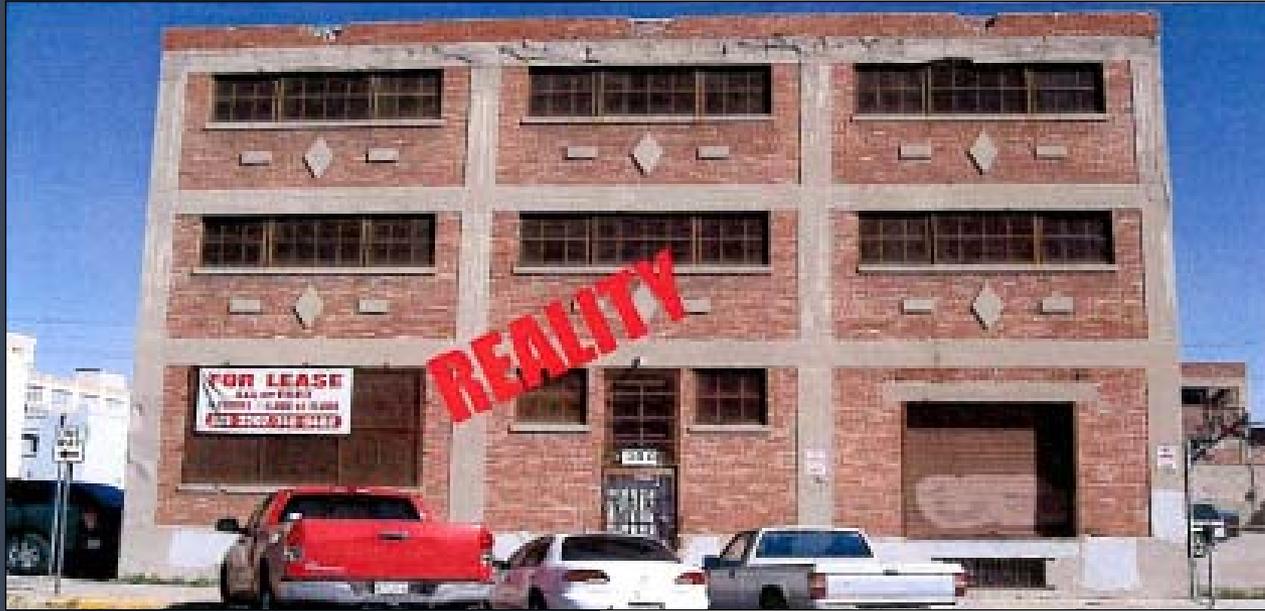


Before



Work in progress

300 S. Florence, \$10,000



Current (front)



Proposed



Current and proposed