The purpose of the Façade Program and the Sign Improvement Grant is to provide the Central Business District (Downtown) business and property owners with the resources to improve and rehabilitate the exteriors of their buildings. This is a concerted effort by the Board of Trustees and village staff aimed at incentivizing these improvements with the ultimate goal of assisting the Downtown in becoming a vibrant and sought after community space.

While these are new or amended programs in 2018, the ultimate goal of this program is to provide the catalyst so that in future years, the incentive is no longer required. In addition, while the Façade Program is available in all Village commercial districts, at this time the Sign Grant is not. Pending the success of this program, we would hope for this to become a community wide program.

For more information, please contact the Village Administrator or Community Development Director via the contact information below.

Village of Little Chute
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I. Program Summary

The Little Chute Village Board has adopted a Design Manual primarily applicable within the Central Business District to create and retain the vision of a heritage destination in downtown Little Chute with an Old World European character. The purpose of the manual’s requirements is to preserve, create, and promote the unique charm, atmosphere, and historical aspects of the community. Attractive building facades support and encourage local business and can have a significant effect on the attractiveness and marketability of a commercial district and the surrounding area.

To encourage business owners to reinvest in downtown Little Chute and other commercial areas within the Village and to financially assist with implementing the requirements of the Little Chute Design Manual, the Village of Little Chute has created a Façade Renovation and Sign Grant Assistance Program to assist in the exterior renovations of these otherwise sound and vital properties within the Village. The Village encourages applicants for this program to obtain price quotes from Little Chute businesses and to undertake their proposed improvements utilizing Little Chute contractors whenever possible.

NOTE: For a comprehensive overview, please review the Façade Program outline at http://www.littlechutewi.org/DocumentCenter/View/2355.

II. Program Goals and Objectives

The Little Chute Façade Renovation and Sign Grant programs have the following goals and objectives:

1. To renovate existing commercial properties, structures, and signage in accordance with an Old World European theme to harmonize with the authentic Dutch Windmill Project in the downtown and to reflect the Dutch heritage of the Village;
2. To attract new businesses and to retain existing businesses currently located in the Village;
3. To retain existing jobs and bring additional employment opportunities into the Village;
4. To provide an incentive and financial assistance to business and property owners to improve their building facades and signage in accordance with an Old World European design theme;
5. To help make the Village of Little Chute a tourist destination by exhibiting the appearance of a Village that cares about its built environment, the residents who live in the Village and the visitors who travel to and through the Village.
6. To encourage the maintenance, expansion and improvement of the Village’s Central Business District and improve the viability of the downtown and other commercial areas as important commercial districts in the Village of Little Chute and Fox Valley region.
III. Program Overview

The Little Chute Façade Renovation and Sign Grant programs have a detailed overview with guidelines, eligibility information and financial information located at http://www.littlechutewi.org/DocumentCenter/View/2355. Below is a brief description of the two separate programs:

1. Façade Renovation Program – A matching type grant is available for the rehabilitation and renovation of facades of the Central Business District or Downtown. Eligible activities include rehabilitation of façade including exterior surfaces, painting, roofs, windows, doors, awnings and decorative features. Non-eligible activities include interior work, landscaping, or routine maintenance.

2. Sign Grant Program – A maximum grant of up to $1,000 is available for projects to improve signage for Central Business District or Downtown properties. Business owners must provide a 50% match. Eligible activities include the removal of appropriate signage and awnings, design, purchase and installation of new signage.

IV. Downtown Planning Area – Central Business District
IV. Application

Façade Renovation Program   
Sign Improvement Grant   

Name of Property Owner: ________________________________
Business Name: ________________________________
Property Address: ________________________________
Mailing Address: ________________________________
Phone Number: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________

Estimated Project Costs:

Masonry Work   $ ____________ 
Paint   $ ____________ 
Carpentry   $ ____________ 
Electrical   $ ____________ 
Windows   $ ____________ 
Doors   $ ____________ 
Awnings   $ ____________ 
Signage   $ ____________ 
Other ________ $ ____________ 

Total Estimated Cost: ____________
Total Amount Requested: ____________

Other Items to Consider Submitting based upon applicability include: Plans for improvement (sign or façade), Estimates from Contractors, Color Schemes and all other documents related to the improvement.

Signature: ________________________________         Date: ________________________________