



Downtown Looking Up

Downtown Looking Up is part of the Downtown Revitalization initiative by Smith Center Economic Development. The purpose is to enhance existing business appearances to promote expansion and attract new businesses to Smith Center.

Upgraded or new awnings create an immediate, significant visual impact to our historic downtown business district. A revitalization program that doesn't require matching funds from the business owner would benefit the entire business district by making the commercial area more attractive and appealing.

The first year, 2016, will concentrate on the 100 block of South Main from Kansas Street to Court Street. After depletion of the dedicated funds for the current year, the impact & success of the project will be evaluated. The continuation of the program for the following year will be determined at that time.

Owner(s) or occupant(s) of commercial buildings located in the current focus area may submit applications to receive a Downtown Looking Up Awning at *no expense to their business*.

- * A scoring matrix has been developed to determine priority buildings and to insure fairness.
- * Preference is given to occupied buildings in general good repair.
- * Property taxes must be paid current to be eligible to apply and the property must be insured.
- * All applications must be complete for consideration.
- * Each complete application will receive a copy of the resulting score sheet regardless of the success of the application.

The highest scoring application will have the first option for a new awning, going down the list until available funds have been used. The business/building owner may choose the style and color of awning they prefer within an agreed upon price range. Any awning customization with logo or business name is at the expense of the applicant.

This new program can work in conjunction with or independent of "The Storefront Renewal" matching grant. Successful applicant businesses are encouraged to upgrade exterior signage when they get a new awning to complete the transformation.

Required attachments:

Complete application with signatures

Proof of insurance on property

Most recent property tax receipt (available from the county treasurer's office)

Disclaimers: The Downtown Looking Up Revitalization Project is subject to the availability of funds. SCED reserves the right to alter to amend or discontinue the program at any time without written notice.

Physical Address of the Commercial Building _____

Building Owner(s) Name _____

Building Owners mailing address _____

Phone # _____ Email Address _____

What year was the building constructed? _____

Building Use (Circle one) Retail Service Gov't or non-profit Vacant - for sale Vacant - for rent Storage

Name of the Business _____

Business Owner(s) Name _____

Business mailing address _____

Phone # _____ Email Address: _____

Business website _____

Business Description _____

Number of years in Business at this location _____

Recent building improvements - list type & cost _____

(use separate sheet if necessary) _____

Year the improvements were completed _____

Was a Storefront Renewal grant awarded? _____ Yes No

Proposed building improvements - type & cost estimate (suggested - not required) _____

(use separate sheet if necessary) _____

Will you be submitting a Storefront renewal grant request for any proposed improvements? _____ Yes No

Will a current awning need to be removed? _____ Yes No

Are you willing to remove it or pay for removal? _____ Yes No

Is a current awning shared with an adjoining building? _____ Yes No

IF YES, is the adjoining building owner applying for a new awning also? _____ Yes No

If NO, will the adjoining building owner agree to have the current awning removed? _____ Yes No

Contact Person for this application

Name _____

Phone # _____ Email Address _____

Signatures:

Building Owner(s): _____

Business Owner(s): _____

Adjoining building owner(s) (if required) _____

Required attachments:

Complete application with signatures _____

Proof of insurance on property _____

Most recent property tax receipt (available from the county treasurer’s office) _____

Optional attachments:

Recent building improvements - total \$ spent _____

Proposed building improvement with cost estimate _____