



Dear Downtown Merchant/Building Owner,

1/5/2012

We wanted to make you aware of a couple of opportunities available to you if you are thinking about renovating your building (interior or exterior). The first is the Main Street Building Basics webinar put on by the Michigan Main Street program (described below). The webinar is free, and you are required to attend if you are interested in receiving free design services from Michigan Main Street in the future. The second is a group of grants that are available from state and national sources for both exterior and interior renovation projects of historic buildings. These are shown in the matrix on the back of this sheet, and are in addition to the façade incentive program offered by the DDA.

Please let us know if you would like to attend the webinar (we will be hosting a viewing here at our office at 122 State St.), or if you would like assistance pursuing any of the grants.

Best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year!

Erin Perdu
Interim DDA Director/Community Development Director

Main Street Building Basics: Michigan Main Street (MMS) staff have scheduled a Main Street Building Basics Webinar for Tuesday, January 31, 2012 from 8:30-10:00am. The webinar will be conducted by Kelly Larson, Main Street Architect for the State Historic Preservation Office. The presentation will focus on the history of downtowns and the evolution of older buildings over time. Also discussed will be good historic preservation principles and practices to maintain the unique qualities of historic buildings while also making them functional for today's needs.

PLEASE NOTE: The webinar is a necessary pre-requisite for a building owner to receive free design assistance from MMS for façade renovations. Please let us know if you would like to participate – we will have a set up in the office to view the webinar. The Main Street Building Basics program includes:

- Main Street's History
- The Buildings of Main Street
- Historic Preservation as an Economic Development Tool
- Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation
- Common Problems & Design Solutions for Buildings

Grant /Funding Organization	Eligible Organizations	Eligible Activities	Amount	Deadline
National Trust Preservation Funds	Public and non-profit organizations	Planning & Education efforts focused on historic preservation	\$2,500-\$5,000	February 1, June 1 and October 1
Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation	Public and non-profit organizations	Planning & Education efforts focused on historic preservation (including marketing, conferences and workshops)	\$2,500-\$10,000	February 1
Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors	Public and non-profit organizations	Preservation, restoration and interpretation of historic interiors	\$2,500-\$10,000	February 1
Downtown Façade Improvement Grants (MEDC)	Local governments	Commercial/mixed use exterior façade improvements that sustain and minimize deterioration in a downtown area	Up to \$25,000 per new job created (25% match required)	Rolling
Downtown Infrastructure Grants (MEDC)	Local governments	Public infrastructure (sidewalks, landscaping, lighting, parking) to support new commercial/mixed use development	Up to \$25,000 per new job created (50% local government match required)	Rolling