



Historic District Commission

April 1, 2026

TITLE: Round 1: Façade Improvement Program

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BACKGROUND

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) works with local partners to help revitalize cities and neighborhoods throughout Maryland. The Department's State Revitalization Program (SRP) has a variety of funding opportunities to achieve this goal. One of these opportunities is the Façade Improvement Program. The State awards communities' funds and then it is up to each community to receive, rank, and award funds based on the applications received.

The City of Westminster Façade Improvement Programs has yielded improvement valued at nearly \$4,500,00 to date. Such grant funding has been used to maintain and enhance some of Westminster's most important downtown buildings.

This year the City of Westminster opened Round 1 funding and received 11 Façade Improvement Applications. Staff sent these out to the Commissioners and the MHT for review. Staff then compiled the scores and ranked the applications from 1 to 11. The top 6 applications are being recommended by staff to be funded in Round 1.

This year the City of Westminster has \$151,295 to award. This is a combination of unused funds from last year and the new grant from DHCD.

The remaining 5 applications were given comments provided by the Commission and MHT. Applicants can submit additional information to strengthen their application for Round 2. The second round of funding will be announced later in 2026.

REVIEW

The Commissioners reviewed the 11 applications and gave a numerical score based on the five criteria listed in the handout given to the applicants called Facade Improvement Program (FIP) Application. The five criteria in the handout are listed below.

1. The estimated increased property values after the FIP project is completed,
2. The extent of historic preservation made to the building,
3. The percentage of private investment vs. public investment,
4. Whether the FIP project will be completed within a nine-month timeframe, and
5. If you are a first time FIP grant applicant

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends the Historic District Commission review the attached Facade Improvement applications, and recommend the funding for each project. Any amount may be awarded up to 50% of the project total cost.

26-02 – 59 West Main Street

CARR # 432 Montour House

Project Cost: \$20,000

Funding Request: \$10,000

Project:

- Paint exterior building and gutter work (\$20,000)



26-03 – 58 West Main Street

CARR # 429 Herr House

Project Cost: \$14,500

Funding Request: \$7,250

Project:

- Remove deteriorated parge from foundation
- Resurface with brick veneer
- Repointing
- Restoration of brick stoop / stairs



26-07 – 143 West Main Street

CARR # None

Project Cost: \$62,500

Funding Request: \$31,250

Project:

- Replace roof with architectural shingles



26-08 – 83 West Main Street

CARR # 434

Project Cost: \$8,862

Funding Request: \$4,431

Project:

- Improvement to the roof of the entry way (flashing)
- Repair holes in bricks
- Repair seal around the window above the porch



26-09 – 61 East Main Street

CARR # None

Project Cost: \$2,950

Funding Request: \$1,475

Project:

- Replace green awnings with black awnings only above their storefront



26-10 – 2 Bond Street

CARR # None

Project Cost: \$23,900

Funding Request: \$11,950

Project:

- Paint existing building
- Paint all trim



Attachments: Façade Improvement Grant Applications for

- 26-02 59 West Main Street
- 26-03 58 West Main Street
- 26-07 143 West Main Street
- 26-08 83 West Main Street
- 26-09 61 East Main Street
- 26-10 2 Bond Street

