

Façade Conservation and Enhancement Grant Program Proposed Changes

Substantive Content Changes

1. Applications can be received from any area of Saskatoon, and projects approved within allocated funding in a given budget cycle, and are not necessarily limited to the Business Improvement Districts (BIDs).
2. Clearly defining three funding streams:
 - a) Façade Conservation and Enhancement Incentive: intended to support larger, comprehensive façade redevelopment projects;
 - b) Heritage Conservation Incentive: intended to support the conservation of Saskatoon's heritage façades; and
 - c) Building Refresh Incentive: intended to support small maintenance and improvement projects.
3. Changing the Façade Conservation and Enhancement Incentive and Heritage Conservation Incentive to a twice-per-year intake system, rather than first-come first-served annual system. The Building Refresh incentive will remain as a first-come first-served annual system.
4. Adding extensions for applicants who under reasonable circumstances are unable to complete their project within the allocated time.
For the Façade Conservation and Improvement, Heritage Conservation, and Building Refresh Incentives, applicants may be considered for an additional 18-month extension.
5. Removing eligibility for the Heritage Conservation Incentive for any building which is at least 40 years old. This Incentive is intended to serve properties which are recognized heritage properties.
6. Removing the existing Appendix A, as the information included within the appendix is clearly outlined within the Policy. The existing Appendix A will be included in the Program Guide.
7. Adding the new Adjudication Matrix appendix to the Policy (see Appendix 3) to inform a more transparent and consistent adjudication.

Housekeeping Changes

1. Updating the purpose statement to include wording that projects should complement or enhance the local character of an area and improve the pedestrian experience.
2. Updated definitions section, removing words which are not included in the Policy, and clarifying existing definitions.

3. The following new definitions were added:
 - a) General Manager; and
 - b) Storefront.
4. Capitalizing the first letter of words defined in the Definitions section to improve clarity.
5. Reordering some of the layout of the Policy to ensure items have been included in the correct section.
6. Changing the Community Services Department to Community Services Division wherever it appears.
7. Changing the word rehabilitation to conservation to align with other Heritage related policies.