

CITY OF BETHLEHEM

Department of Community and Economic Development Interoffice Memo

TO: Michael G. Colón, City Council President

FROM: Laura Collins, Director of Community and Economic Development

RE: Resolution for DCED Grant for Commercial Façades

Attached is a resolution in support of the City of Bethlehem's grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development ("PA DCED") for a Keystone Communities Program façade grant. The Keystone Communities Program makes commercial façade grants available to municipalities to "stimulate private investment in properties, foster an attractive environment, and preserve the architectural heritage of properties and communities." The City is seeking \$50,000 from this program for commercial façade improvements in Bethlehem's Historic District.

The City has maintained a commercial façade grant program for a number of years that utilizes grant funds from Northampton County to support commercial façade improvement projects in the Historic North Side Business District, North Side Central Business District, East Broad Street Business District, Linden Street Neighborhood Business District, South Side Arts District, and South Bethlehem's Four Block International District. The objective of the façade program is to strengthen Bethlehem's position as a prime location and destination by keeping business districts vibrant through the stabilization and enhancement of the City's commercial buildings. Successful commercial façade improvement projects have been completed through this program on both the North and the Southside in recent years. With the Northampton County Funds expected to be depleted soon, the City is seeking additional funding to continue a façade program.

The monies awarded from the PA DCED Keystone funds Communities Grant Program will help fund new façade projects in the Historic District that align with our existing façade program and adhere to the current guidelines of the program (which are available at <https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Community-Economic-Development/Economic-Development-Start-a-Business/Facade-Grants>). This bucket of will help further enhance the downtown Historic District and support the City's efforts to receive and maximize the impact of a World Heritage Site designation.

Please place this resolution on the August 15 City Council agenda for review and consideration. PA DCED requires that two original copies of each of the attached resolutions be signed in blue ink and returned with the application.



Laura Collins
Director of Community and Economic Development

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the City of Bethlehem (“Applicant”) desires to undertake the project, Bethlehem Commercial Façade Program.

WHEREAS, the applicant desires to receive from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (“Department”) a grant for the purpose of carrying out this project; and

WHEREAS, the application package includes a document entitled “Terms and Conditions of Grant” and

WHEREAS, the applicant understands that the contents of the document entitled “Terms and Conditions of Grant,” including appendices referred to therein, will become the terms and conditions of a Grant Agreement between the applicant and the Department if the applicant is awarded a grant; and

NOW THEREFORE, it is resolved that:

1. The “Grant Agreement Signature Page” may be signed on behalf of the applicant by the Official who, at the time of signing, has TITLE of Mayor.
2. If this Official signed the “Grant Agreement Signature Page” prior to the passage of this Resolution, this grant of authority applies retroactively to the date of signing.
3. If the applicant is awarded a grant, the “Grant Agreement Signature Page”, signed by the above Official, will become the applicant/grantee’s executed signature page for the Grant Agreement, and the applicant/grantee will be bound by the Grant Agreement.
4. Any amendment to the Grant Agreement may be signed on behalf of the grantee by the Official who, at the time of signing of the amendment, has the TITLE specified in paragraph 1 and the grantee will be bound by the amendment.

Sponsored by _____

ADOPTED by Council this ____ day of _____, _____

President of Council

ATTEST:

City Clerk