

**CITY OF COOS BAY  
JOINT CITY COUNCIL / URA WORK SESSION  
Agenda Staff Report**

<b>MEETING DATE</b> June 27, 2017	<b>AGENDA ITEM NUMBER</b>
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TO: Chair Kramer and Board Members

FROM: Debbie Erler, Planner

Through: Rodger Craddock, City Manager

ISSUE: Consideration of a Façade Improvement Grant - Old City Hall

**SUMMARY:**

The applicant is requesting a Façade Improvement Grant to help with the restoration of the main exterior staircase (Photos attached). The City Council recently awarded the applicant the City's first Certified Local Government's (CLG) Restoration Grant in the amount of \$7,500. After reviewing the possible projects at that location, the State approved the stair restoration for funding.

Subject to approval by the Urban Renewal Agency, the Façade Improvement Program provides a 50/50 grant with a maximum grant award of \$25,000 per fiscal year. The applicant would use the Façade Improvement Grant as matching funds for the CLG Grant. The Design Assistance Team (DAT) met on June 21, 2017 to review the Façade Improvement Grant request. The DAT discussed the project and the current dilapidated condition of the stairway. They recommended the project be approved as submitted.

City staff is assisting the property owner with the Façade Improvement process in an attempt to get the project completed prior to the CLG Grant deadline of August 31, 2017. The program requires three bids be obtained for the façade project. Staff is requesting pre-approval of the grant while we pursue the required bids, due to the short timeframe for completion of the project. The project will be a visual improvement to the building and the downtown area, which will assist in the revitalization of the Downtown District.

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Review and discuss the merits of the proposed façade improvement grant.

**BACKGROUND:**

Old City Hall is located in the heart of the downtown and is a critical piece of local culture and history. The building is under new ownership and has recently underwent major interior restorations, including the area of the building that is home to the newly opened "Flappers Coffee House". The structure is on the National Registry of Historic Places and is on the City's newly established Local Landmark Registry. The restoration and preservation of this structure will provide ascetic appeal to visitors and will help ensure the integrity of this iconic building.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

Funding for the Downtown Urban Renewal Façade Improvement Program (#57-940-520-2415) for the fiscal year 2017-2018 was \$150,000. In January of 2017, the City Council award a Façade Improvement Grant for up to \$25,000 to the property owners of 217 S. Broadway based on anticipated funds from the 2017-2018 budget; therefore, \$125,000 is remaining.

Attachments: A      Photos of existing façade



