

Village of Minerva's Downtown Revitalization Program

Program Purpose

The Village of Minerva's Downtown Revitalization Program is designed to support building owners & tenants in revitalizing & preserving the historic charm of Minerva's Downtown District. The program encourages visual enhancements that contribute to a more attractive, vibrant, & economically active downtown.

Available Funding

Grants are awarded on a first-come, first-reviewed basis until funds are depleted.

- Grant Awards: Up to 75% reimbursement of eligible project costs.
- Maximum Grant Per Property: \$10,000
- Minimum Project Size: \$1,000 in total costs

Eligible Applicants

- Property owners or commercial tenants. (with property owner's written consent)
- Properties located within the officially designated Downtown District.
- Applicants *must* be in good standing with the Village. (*no outstanding taxes, fees, or code violations*)

Eligible Improvements

Funds may be used for improvements that enhance the exterior of downtown buildings, including:

- **Signage:** New or restored signs, externally lit only.
- **Awnings:** New installation, repair, or replacement (*canvas or fabric only*).
- Painting: Exterior painting that complements the downtown color palette.
- Windows: Repair or replacement of damaged or non-historic windows.
- **Architectural Restoration:** Restoration of historic architectural features.
- Other Façade Enhancements: As approved by the Village Design Review Board.



Ineligible Uses:

- Roof Repairs
- Routine Maintenance
- Interior Improvements
- Non-Permanent Landscaping
- Vinyl or Plastic Signage/Awnings

Application Process

1. Pre-Application Meeting:

Optional but encouraged, meet with the Village Administrator or Zoning Administrator to discuss your project.

2. Submit Application Package, including:

- Completed Application Form
- o Proof of Ownership or Signed Approval from Property Owner
- o Photos of Current Building Conditions
- Project Description and Itemized Cost Estimate
- o Material/Color Samples and Signage/Awning Drawings (if applicable)
- o Timeline for Project Completion

3. Review & Approval:

- o Applications are reviewed by the Village Design Review Board.
- o Notification of approval, denial, or revision within 30 days.

4. Project Completion & Reimbursement:

- o Work must be completed within 6 months of approval. (extensions may be granted)
- o Final inspection and submission of receipts required for reimbursement.
- o All projects must be completed by May 1, 2026.

Review Criteria

- Visual impact of the project on the Downtown District.
- Consistency with Village of Minerva Downtown Design Standards.
- Appropriateness of materials and colors.
- Feasibility and readiness of the proposed project.
- Long-term benefit to the downtown aesthetic.

Post-Award Requirements

- Grantees *must* display a small Village-provided decal in their window during construction: "This project was supported by the Village of Minerva's Downtown Revitalization Program."
- Projects *must* be maintained in good condition for at least 5 years following completion.