



CITY OF DURHAM
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News Release

For Immediate Release: April 19, 2017

Share! Interested in funds to improve your #downtown #Durham or #NinthStreet business? Apply by May 12 for a building improvement grant: <http://bit.ly/2oLop02>

Durham Seeks Applicants for Building Improvement Grants

May 12 Deadline to Submit Applications

DURHAM, N.C. – Durham business owners interested in funds to help improve their locations should apply now for an upcoming grant opportunity.

The City of Durham's Office of Economic and Workforce Development is accepting applications for targeted areas inside the city limits for Building Improvement Grants. Proposed projects must be within the Ninth Street Commercial Corridor or the Downtown Development Tier, including Parrish Street. To determine whether a project is within the eligible geographic location, business owners should use the department's [mapping tool](#).

The Building Improvement Grant requires that eligible applicants own the building at the time of the application and the project must be private property and non-residential. Capital investment improvements must be on an existing building that has vacant spaces for the purpose of improving and/or upgrading the interior and exterior in order to make the first floor more rentable or retail or restaurant-ready. The total value of the project cannot exceed \$1 million. If the project is within the Downtown Development Tier, the minimum total project capital investment must be at least \$225,000.

Building Improvement Grant recipients are eligible to receive up to \$75,000 in matching funds from the City. The eligibility for public incentive payment and the amount of payment will be based upon the likelihood of success of the project as determined by a competitive scoring process.

An overview of the grant guidelines and application process is now available on the [City's website](#). The deadline to apply is 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 12, 2017. Interested applicants who need more information may also contact Acting Senior Economic Development Manager Reginald Jones with the City's Office of Economic and Workforce Development by [email](#) or (919) 560-4965, ext. 15207.

About the City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development

Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the [Office of Economic and Workforce Development](#) helps ensure that Durham has a strong and diverse economy by increasing the city's tax base through several revitalization initiatives, including new development efforts in the central city area. The department also plans and promotes cultural awareness and events, identifies and recruits target industries as well as assesses and trains Durham residents to fill new jobs.

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