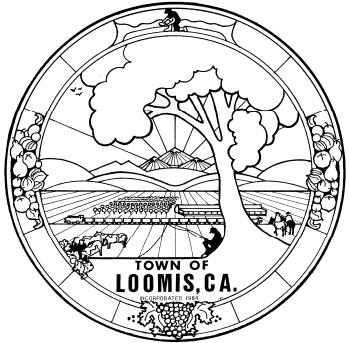


# TOWN OF LOOMIS



## TOWN OF LOOMIS ANNOUNCES NEW FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Capitalizing on the momentum created when nationally-recognized downtown revitalization expert Michele Reeves came to Loomis in mid-November, the Loomis Town Council unanimously approved on Tuesday, December 12, a new façade improvement grant program aimed at provided funding for downtown businesses to improve their storefronts.

The grant program is available to businesses and property owners in the Loomis Downtown Master Plan area.

The Town of Loomis has set aside \$50,000 into a Façade Improvement Grant Program to encourage investment and upgrades to commercial properties in the Downtown Master Plan area. There are two components to the program – a no-match grant of up to \$4,000 for small-scale improvements and a 50/50 matching grant program for larger projects (maximum grant amount is \$8,000, or as determined by the Town Council for high-priority projects).

“The program extends the town’s strong commitment of supporting existing businesses and helps to make much needed improvements to the downtown and commercial area in Loomis,” Loomis Mayor Pro Tempore Tim Onderko said. “Improving our downtown continues to be a top priority for the Town of Loomis.”

The Town Manager has authority to award grants up to \$4,000; matching grants must be approved by the Town Council. Grants are awarded upon completion of the project. Arrangements can be made for partial awards upon completion of specific project phases, if applicable. Applicants approved for funding through either program will contract their own labor for construction and installation.

Matching grant projects may also be eligible for Façade Improvement Design Assistance, upon Town Manager recommendation and Council approval.

“When the Town hosted Ms. Reeves in November for a one-day workshop, we hoped for practical tools that would facilitate a successful downtown,” Town Manager Sean Rabé said. “That workshop was very successful and Ms. Reeves’ advice really provided staff with concrete steps to facilitate the ongoing downtown revitalization project. One of those steps included the façade grant program.”

Rabé said there are several businesses in the Downtown Master Plan area that could use a catalyst to begin improving their storefronts. “A grant program is a common way to provide that assistance,” he said. “The intent is to keep the program as simple as possible, with me personally shepherding projects through the process.”

Eligible work under the grant program includes rehabilitation of building facades visible to the street (including storefronts, cornices, gutters and downspouts); signs and graphics; exterior lighting; canopies and awnings; painting and masonry cleaning; interior window display lighting; permit and design fees.

Ineligible work includes maintenance improvements; roofs; structural foundations; billboards; security systems; non-permanent fixtures; interior window coverings; vinyl awnings; personal property and equipment; security bars; razor/barbed wire fencing; landscaping, sidewalks, and paving.

Rabé said proposals will be reviewed two times during the fiscal year. The first application deadline is January 31; the second deadline is July 31. Projects must be completed one year from the project approval date. Applicants receiving funding through the program within the last 12 months are not eligible to apply the following fiscal year.

For more information, please contact Town Manager Sean Rabé at 652-1840. Grant applications will be made available on the Town’s website at [www.loomis.ca.gov](http://www.loomis.ca.gov) by next week.

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