



COLORADO
Department of Local Affairs
Division of Local Government



Contact:

Nancy Bailey, Main Street Director
719-398-3132
mainstreet@lakecountyedc.com

Date, 2022

For Immediate Release

Leadville Continues Façade Improvements for Leadville Herald-Democrat

Colorado Main Street: Open for Business Grant provided \$5.97M to towns across the state to help local businesses, of which many projects are almost complete!

Leadville, CO – The City of Leadville was awarded \$250,000 in grant funding from Colorado Main Street: Open for Business in 2021. These funds are going toward the renovation of the historic Herald Democrat building at 715-717 Harrison Avenue, and will greatly improve the appearance and historic value of Leadville's downtown.

Colorado Main Street trusts that investing in façade improvements will in turn result in more customer visitations and increase/create jobs for the two retail businesses, Alpine Gift Shop and Fire on the Mountain, that share the building with newspaper. The goal is to create a catalytic ripple effect of investment in our treasured downtowns.

Since the grant was announced in October 2021, renovation project has progressed significantly! So far, skilled bricklayers have rotated each brick of the building's facade. Analysis of the original mortar allowed workers to duplicate it, and an analysis of the many layers of paint on the wood and the decorative cornice resulted in the original colors being used. The remainder of the project, including replacing windows and doors, will be accomplished by the June 30 deadline.

"The MSOB grant paved the way to help one of the oldest buildings on our Main Street maintain its rightful legacy in Leadville. The Herald Democrat Building is truly a community gem rich in Colorado history. The improvements to their building will lift up the historic Harrison Avenue," Nancy Bailey, Main Street Director, said.

While Leadville is very excited about the obvious aesthetic improvements this grant is bringing about, even more thrilling is the many changes it will inspire. Leadville is looking to continually make improvements in the downtown space and support businesses that also give back to the community. Projects such as these have the power to improve staff morale, increase sales, generate sales tax revenue, and keep doors open.





About the DOLA Colorado Main Street: Open for Business Grant

Businesses receiving funding from the Main Street Open for Business grant were required to be located within one of Colorado's traditional downtowns, and municipalities had to apply on their behalf. DOLA provided funding for 80% of the proposed projects to awardees, with the municipality, property or business owner responsible for providing the remaining 20%.

DOLA received applications totaling more than \$21 million in requests. 105 businesses in 16 communities were awarded grants, fully utilizing the \$5.97 million available. 65 of these businesses are DBE (disadvantaged small business enterprises) that includes minority-, women- and veteran-owned businesses.

Learn more about DOLA and the Colorado Main Street Program at cdola.colorado.gov/main-street.

Learn more about the Main Street: Open for Business Grant at cdola.colorado.gov/open-for-business.

###

