



Update on City Business April 2023

Grant Program open

The Community Redevelopment Agency is offering Redevelopment Grants to commercial and residential properties in the Redevelopment Area (US17 Corridor and the Central Avenue area.) Over \$200,000 in Redevelopment and American Rescue Act Funds are available for improvements to exterior and some interior improvements. The application deadline is June 1st. At least two bids on all proposed work must be submitted with the application. Contact the CRA at 386-698-2525 for an application.

GRANT CRITERIA

- Must be a property located within CRA district boundaries.
- Grants up to and including \$5,000 require no match, although a match will increase the ranking of the project.
- Grants over \$5,000 require 50% match unless the property is a contributing structure in the National Register or Local Historic District, a National Register or Local Historic Landmark, or a “Targeted Building” on the Targeted Building List, in which case the match is 0% - 25%.
- Maximum grant award is \$10,000 unless the property is a contributing structure in the National Register or Local Historic District, a National Register or Local Historic Landmark, or a “Targeted Building” on the Targeted Building List, in which case the maximum award is \$20,000.
- Only one grant may be awarded, per fiscal year, for each street address. Grants must be closed out before another grant may be awarded.
- Work on historical buildings cannot be such that the result would be to remove the property from eligibility for historic designation. [The improvements cannot remove or alter historic character or elements of the architecture.]

April City Commission Meeting Summary

The City Commission:

- Proclaimed May as Historic Preservation Month in the City of Crescent City
- Unanimously approved Resolution 2023-02, urging the School Board to do everything it can to preserve the 3 Historic Buildings at Miller Middle School.
- Tabled the First Reading of Ordinance 2023-06, Minimum Maintenance Standards and directed staff to bring back the Ordinance with changes so that the standards only apply to commercial and non-homesteaded properties.
- Unanimously approved the First Reading of Ordinance 2023-07, which amending our Business Tax Receipts fees and restored them to \$35 plus a 5% increase each year, not to exceed \$50.
- **Unanimously approved a Natural Gas Purchase Agreement.**

- Unanimously approved a motion to have the Official Minutes of Commission meetings contain the actions of the meeting in a succinct format rather than verbatim.
- Unanimously approved to surplus the city's dump truck.
- Approved 4 – 1, a request by the Crescent City Downtown Partnership for alcohol at their Cinco de Mayo event in Eva Lyon Park – Commissioner DeVitto voted against.
- Unanimously approved a staff request to apply for Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Small Matching Grant to update the historical survey.
- Unanimously approved a staff request to allow a grant application by Concerned Citizens of South Putnam for city-owned property (New Moon Masonic Lodge) for a Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Small Matching Grant to create a architectural plan to renovate and restore the New Moon Masonic Lodge.

The Community Redevelopment Agency Board:

- Approved 4-1, bringing the top respondents to the RFP back to present to the CRA Board in May for selection. – Commissioner DeVitto voted against.
- Unanimously approved a grant to install a gas line for The Lochside Restaurant on N. Hwy 17.
- Unanimously approved changes to the Redevelopment Grant program to make the program a competitive program with a required match, a cap and approving the use of up to \$200,000 in ARPA funds to supplement the program.
- Directed staff to bring back more information on a proposed entry sign design.