



CITY OF SHERMAN CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT HISTORIC BUILDING RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

GUIDELINES AND POLICIES

The Building Restoration and Improvement Grant Program is designed to stimulate improvements to existing historically significant buildings in the Central Business District of the City of Sherman, Texas, to promote tourism, to enhance the physical appearance and economic vitality of downtown Sherman, and to promote joint public/private investment to complement ongoing historical revitalization efforts.

Program Objectives and Available Assistance

- To make positive, high-impact visual improvements to historically significant commercial buildings by providing an overall enhanced image for downtown Sherman, thereby attracting visitors to shop, dine, and do business in the Central Business District
- To provide a maximum of \$25,000.00 per project as a matching monetary incentive, a grant packaged as a forgivable loan with a conditional lien placed on the subject property, to the owners of historically significant commercial properties in the Central Business District for high-quality improvements to their properties
- In all cases, the applicant must provide matching funds at a ratio of four to one (4:1); meaning that, for every \$4.00 the applicant invests in the renovation or improvement of the subject property, the City will reimburse \$1.00 of qualified expenditures, up to the maximum grant authorized by the City Council not to exceed \$25,000.00 per project

Eligibility Requirements

- Assistance under this program will be considered subject to the availability of funding.
- Historic buildings within the downtown improvement area (map attached) that are of a commercial, retail, service, or professional use are eligible to participate in the program.
- For mixed-use historic buildings, only the portion of the building that is commercial, retail, service, or professional is eligible.
- The building to be improved must have historical significance either from an architectural point of view or a historical use or event that would tend to attract tourists to the buildings location.

Minimum Guidelines

- Buildings improved with funds from this program must remain open, operative, and free of graffiti and blight for a period of five (5) years from the date of agreement and until the lien is released.
- Tax payments for the subject property shall be up-to-date at the time of application and kept current throughout the five-year grant period.
- Outstanding work orders for the City's Developmental Services Department and/or the City's Fire Department and requests to comply therewith must be addressed prior to grant approval. Any noncompliance or outstanding violations will disqualify the applicant.
- **Grants will be approved at the sole discretion of the City.**

- To be accepted into the program, projects must make a substantial visible improvement to the appearance of the building, at the discretion of City staff. Repainting a building its same colors is considered maintenance, not an improvement.
- Building improvements should maintain the character of the downtown area; and the design drawings must be approved by the City in order to access funding for improvement.
- Improvements to be undertaken shall conform to the City's Codes and any other policies and regulations applying to the subject property.
- **Retroactive applications will not be accepted.** Applicants must consult with City staff before work begins to define a project scope.
- Program funds shall be made available only to projects that enhance and are sensitive to the historical nature of the structure.
- For properties with multiple storefronts, it is recommended that the façade treatment provide a cohesive theme while also allowing for some distinctive design elements to the various businesses, such as signage, exposing transom windows, lighting, flower boxes, murals, etc., to provide better street visibility and promote economic development downtown.
- For corner buildings fronting more than one street, improvements must be made to each frontage if determined necessary by City staff.

Application Prioritization

Funding is limited, and project applications will be prioritized on a first-come, first-served basis.

Eligible Improvements

Eligible improvements must be permanent in nature as determined exclusively by the City of Sherman. All improvements must be consistent with the City of Sherman Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance, Building Regulations, and other applicable laws. Eligible costs include the cost of materials, equipment, and contracted labor to complete eligible improvements, including, but not limited to, the following:

- New commercial or mixed-use construction
- Commercial code compliance renovations
- Permanent commercial interior remodeling improvements
- Permanent commercial site (exterior) improvements
- Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for commercial properties
- Work necessary to bring the structure up to life-safety code standards
- Installation, repair, and replacement of exit (exterior) doors and hardware
- Repair, replacement, or addition of exterior shutters and awnings/canopies
- Repair, replacement or purchase of signs (when performed as part of an overall façade improvement)
- Repair and replacement or installation of interior and exterior stairs, porches, railings, and exit facilities
- Repair and rebuilding of interior and exterior walls, including cleaning, sealing, tuck pointing and painting
- Repair or replacement of frames, sills, glazing, replacement of glass and installation of new windows
- Installation of permanently affixed landscaping, such as stone or brick planters
- Installation, repair, or replacement of exterior lighting
- Mechanical, including rewiring, replumbing, insulation, mechanical systems/climate control

The City will prioritize projects. Consideration will be given to (1) threats to the survival of the structure, (2) importance of the structure to the overall goals of the program, (3) structural integrity and condition, and (4) cost effectiveness of the proposed work. In determining the grant amount, the City will also consider the time required to complete the project. Applicants are requested to limit their requests to projects that can be completed in a twelve (12) month period.

Ineligible Improvements

- No structural addition that would enlarge the residential (livable) space of the project is to be financed with these funds – nor an area not originally a livable space made livable.
- Residential structures
- Real estate or building purchases
- Furnishings and equipment purchases
- Working capital
- Inventory financing
- Title reports and legal fees
- Professional fees such as architects, engineers, and solicitors
- Labor provided by the Applicant or tenant of the building
- Extermination of insects, rodents, vermin and other pests
- Improvements that do not comply with City of Sherman Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance, Building Regulations, and other applicable laws
- Expenses incurred prior to grant application approval. Improvements cannot be undertaken before grant application approval.

Property Lien

Once the work is completed, the City will record a conditional lien on the property to ensure that the property improved with funds from this program remains open, operative, and free of graffiti and blight for a period of five (5) years from the date of agreement. If the Applicant fails to maintain the funded improvements for the entire five-year period, the City will recover its costs through the lien. If the Applicant satisfactorily fulfills the program requirements, the lien will be released at the end of five (5) years from the date of agreement.

Application Process

Program Application and Agreement forms are available in the City Manager's Office in the Sherman City Hall, 220 West Mulberry Street, Sherman, Texas 75091-1106, telephone (903) 892-7201. The application process is as follows:

- After reviewing the program guidelines, the Applicant will meet with City staff to discuss the desired work to be undertaken. If the proposed work is within the program guidelines, as determined exclusively by City staff, a completed application is submitted to the City. Written bids, sketches, color samples, and material supplies should be included.
- The Applicant is responsible for submitting plans and specifications to the City and obtaining all required planning and building permits, and any other applicable approvals, with the assistance of City staff.
- The Sherman City Council will consider the recommendations made by the City staff and will make its decision in a public meeting. The Council's decision will be made by adopting

a resolution, which will authorize the City Manager to enter into a grant agreement with the Applicant.

- With the Council's authorization, the City Manager will cause the necessary documents to be drawn up and will sign the grant agreement.
- Upon approval, the City will send a "Notice to Proceed" to the Applicant. The Applicant may proceed with the planned building improvements pursuant to the approved design and issued permits. All payments for the work should be made by the Applicant and supported by clearly defined invoices outlining eligible work. Work shall commence within ninety (90) days of the approval date of the building permits. Extensions may be granted solely at the discretion of City staff.
- City staff will monitor the ongoing progress during construction to ensure that the work is performed according to the approved application and plans. No changes to work shall be made without the written consent of both the Applicant and the City. Approved "Change in Work" forms will be attached to the original application, dated and signed by the City Manager.
- Deviations from approved plans and specifications may disqualify the Applicant from this grant program.
- Once the work is completed, the City will record a conditional lien, good for five (5) years, on the subject property to be released upon completion of the program requirements.
- Funds will be disbursed upon completion of the project. City staff will conduct a final inspection before the grant funds will be disbursed to the Applicant. A Certificate of Approval will be issued to the Applicant.
- Reimbursement claims for all eligible expenses must be submitted with the following supporting documents.
 - A completed Rebate Claim form supplied by the City of Sherman
 - Any applicable planning and building permits
 - Cancelled checks and paid invoices/receipts for eligible work

After final approval of the improvements, the rebate reimbursement will be processed. Allow thirty (30) days for receipt of the rebate check.

- After the work is completed, Applicant shall display a sign or banner (provided by the City) indicating participation in the City of Sherman Central Business District Historic Building Restoration and Improvement Grant Program. The sign or banner shall be displayed either on the exterior or in the front window of the building for a period of thirty (30) days.

Loan Applications

The loan application requires:

- Information summarizing the project, including complete construction plans and specifications
- The project cost and the amount of other dollars being brought to the project
- Preliminary commitment of private funds
- Specific uses of all funds
- Current financial and/or profit and loss statements
- Amount of grant requested and proposed term being requested
- Current lien/title report on the subject property

All applications must be made on forms provided by the City of Sherman. For further information, please contact:

L. Scott Wall
City Manager
City of Sherman

Physical Address:
Sherman City Hall, City Manager's Office
220 West Mulberry Street
Sherman, Texas 75090

or

Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 1106
Sherman, Texas 75091-1106

Telephone: (903) 892-7201
Facsimile: (903) 892-7355
E-Mail: scottw@ci.sherman.tx.us

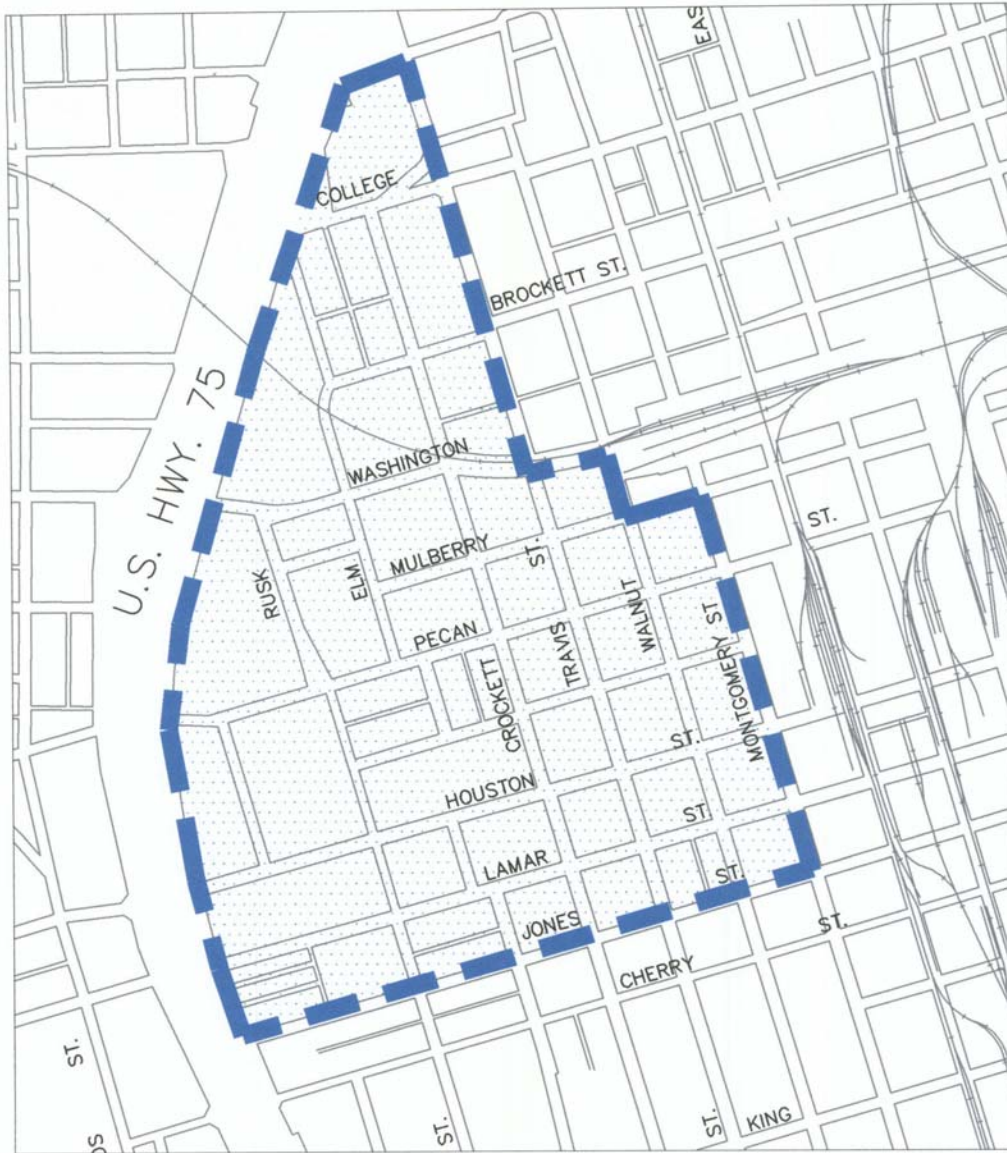
Scott Shadden
Developmental Services Director
City of Sherman

Physical Address:
Sherman City Hall, Building Inspection
220 West Mulberry Street
Sherman, Texas 75090

or

Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 1106
Sherman, Texas 75091-1106

Telephone: (903) 892-7333
Facsimile: (903) 892-7274
E-Mail: scotts@ci.sherman.tx.us



CITY OF SHERMAN, TEXAS
CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT
HISTORIC BUILDING RESTORATION
AND IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM
Department of Developmental Services





**CITY OF SHERMAN
CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT HISTORIC
BUILDING RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

Submission Requirements

It is strongly recommended that all Applicants carefully review the “City of Sherman Central Business District Historic Building Restoration and Improvement Grant Program Guidelines and Policies” prior to completing an application.

It is also recommended that Applicants discuss their proposed improvements and any questions regarding the submission requirements with the Developmental Services Department and the City Manager’s Office prior to completing the application form.

Please ensure that the following items have been included in your submission. Failure to provide the necessary documentation will delay the processing of your application.

Application Checklist:

- ☐ Copy of deed included
- ☐ Copy of mortgage (if applicable) included
- ☐ Description of proposed improvements – designs/drawings attached
- ☐ Pictures attached
- ☐ Estimate of costs/quotes or other details
- ☐ Signature of owner/authorized agent
- ☐ Application complete
- ☐ Are improvements in compliance with the City of Sherman Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance, Building Regulations, and other applicable laws?
- ☐ All material, pictures, drawings, newspaper articles, original deeds, etc. that will help identify the building as a historically significant structure through architectural design, building use or events that have taken place in or around it.
- ☐ Architectural and elevation renderings.



CITY OF SHERMAN

City Manager's Office
220 West Mulberry Street
Sherman, Texas 75090
Tele: (903) 892-7201 Fax: (903) 892-7355

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

File # _____

Assessment Role Number _____

Assessed Property Value _____

Property Address _____

Date Application Received _____

Date Application Completed _____

CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT HISTORIC BUILDING RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Application

The information requested below will be used to process your application under the terms and conditions of the City of Sherman's Historic Building Restoration and Improvement Grant (Forgivable Loan) Program.

I. Applicant Information

1. Applicant(s) name: _____
Mailing address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Federal Tax ID or Social Security Number: _____
2. Applicant's daytime telephone number: _____
Cell # (____) _____ Facsimile # (____) _____
E-mail address: _____
3. Status of applicant (please check one)
☐ Property owner with vacant facility
☐ Property owner with tenant business
☐ Property owner/operator of existing business on property
4. Owner of property is a/an (please check one)
☐ Individual
☐ Partnership (attach copy of Partnership Agreement)
☐ Corporation/profit (attach copy of Articles of Incorporation)
☐ Corporation/nonprofit (attach list of officers and directors)
☐ Trust (attach copy of Trust Agreement)
☐ Other
5. Length of ownership: _____
Date purchased: _____

II. Property Information

1. Address of property to be improved:

2. Legal description of subject property:

3. Tax Assessor Parcel Number(s):

4. Year built: _____ Square footage: _____
5. Is this a National Register building? Yes___ No___ (check one)
Is this a building of known historical significance? Yes___ No___ (check one)
6. What are the current types of businesses occupying the building?

7. Name and phone number of tenant(s), if applicable: _____

(Attach additional names/numbers, if needed)
8. Use of building after construction: _____

9. Number of parking spaces provided: _____ Proposed: _____ Total: _____
10. Current zoning: _____
11. Is a zoning amendment required? Yes___ No___ (check one)
12. Attach architectural and elevation renderings.

III. Project Description

1. Description of Proposed Improvements. Please provide a detailed description of your proposed improvements. Attach a copy of your architectural or design plans. Identify the materials to be used, such as the type of paint or stain (i.e., exterior latex, color, etc.). Include details of new signs or awnings, etc. Provide color photos of the subject property and those adjacent prior to and after the improvements are made.

Please note: Applicants should carefully review the “City of Sherman Central Business District Historic Building Restoration and Improvement Grant Program Guidelines and Policies”, and discuss all proposed improvements with the City of Sherman’s Developmental Services Department prior to completing this application. It is also recommended that Applicants discuss their proposed improvements and any questions regarding the submission requirements with the Developmental Services Department and the City Manager’s Office prior to completing the application form.

Description: _____

☐ **Designs Attached**

☐ **Before Picture(s) Attached**

2. How many jobs will be **retained** once the project is completed? _____
_____ Full-time positions _____ Part-time positions
3. How many **new positions** will result from this project? _____
_____ Full-time positions _____ Part-time positions

IV. Work Estimates

Please attach two (2) independent contractor estimates for each component of the proposed improvement. Please note that grant/forgivable loan funding shall be based on the lowest bid. Eligible costs shall be the cost of materials, equipment, and contracted labor to complete eligible improvements. Professional fees such as architects, engineers, and solicitors are not eligible costs. Labor provided by the Applicant or tenant of the building is not an eligible cost.

1. Name/Company and Phone Number of Preferred Contractor:

Amount: _____
2. Name/Company and Phone Number of Second Contractor:

Amount: _____
3. Additional Estimates/Comments: (Please attach additional quotes, as required)

4. Total estimated costs of your improvements: _____

5. Estimated completion date for your improvements? _____

V. Historic Significance

The City's Program for improving the historic buildings of downtown Sherman is being funded through the City's Hotel/Motel Tax revenues, which require that this money may be spent only on historic buildings that would tend to attract tourists. Many factors may indicate a building's historic significance such as age, architectural design, building use, events or significant people. Some of this may be proved through deeds, pictures, books, newspaper articles and the like. Attach to this application all matters that would prove your claim that this is a historic building.

VI. Signature of Owner/Authorized Agent – Affidavit or Sworn Declaration

I/We, _____, of the City of Sherman, County of Grayson, State of Texas, make oath and say (or solemnly declare) that the information contained in this application is true and that the information contained in the documents that accompany this application in respect of the application is true.

I/We hereby authorize inspections of my/our property to be improved.

I/We acknowledge that any work carried out prior to written confirmation of grant approval may not be eligible.

I/We acknowledge receiving, understanding, and accepting the terms and conditions of the City of Sherman Central Business District Historic Building Restoration and Improvement Grant Program.

Sworn to (or declared before me), _____, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this the _____ day of _____, 20____.

Applicant

Co-Applicant

Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires: _____

VII. Consent of the Owner to the Use and Disclosure of Personal Information

I/We, _____,
am the owner of the land that is the subject of this Application and, for the purposes of the
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, I/we authorize and consent to the use by
or the disclosure to any person or public body of any personal information that is collected under
the authority of the _____ for the purposes of processing this application.

Date

Signature of Owner(s)

VIII. Authorization for Agent *(complete only if Applicant is not the registered Owner)*

I/We, _____,
the owner of the subject property, hereby authorize _____
(Agent) to act on my behalf with respect to the application.

Date

Signature of Owner(s)

Note: Information provided in this application will become part of a public record.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY (Entire Page)

	Staff Initials	Comments
Ownership Confirmed		
Property Taxes Paid in Full		
Work Order Search (Building)		
Fire Code Conformity		
Master Plan Conformity		
Zoning Conformity		
Building Regulations Conformity		
Copy of Deed Attached		
Copy of Mortgage Attached		
Proof of Historical Significance		
Architectural Renderings		
Elevation Renderings		



**CITY OF SHERMAN
CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT HISTORIC
BUILDING RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into on this the _____ day of _____, 20____, by and between the City of Sherman, a municipal corporation of the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as “City”, and _____, hereinafter referred to as “Applicant.”

The Applicant and the City certify and agree to the terms and conditions as set forth below:

1. The Applicant is the owner of a certain real property located at _____ in the City of Sherman, Grayson County, Texas, hereinafter referred to as “Property,” lying within an area where the City is conducting a Central Business District Historic Building Restoration and Improvement Grant Program as described in the Program’s “Guidelines and Policies”, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and made a part of this application for all purposes.
2. The Property is of commercial, retail, service, professional and/or office use; and Applicant states that the proposed improvements to the Property listed in the Central Business District Historic Building Restoration and Improvement Grant Program Application are eligible improvements as described in the Program Guidelines and Policies. Applicant states that all the information contained in the application is accurate and truthful and discloses sufficient information so as not to be misleading. The submitted Application is attached hereto as Exhibit “B” and made a part hereof for all purposes.
3. All improvements to be undertaken will be consistent with all applicable Zoning and Building Codes.
4. Only the work that is agreed to by the City and the Applicant, which will be outlined in a formal written notice to proceed to be provided to the Applicant by the City upon Application approval, will be eligible for reimbursement. Any changes to the project that are not approved by the City in writing will not be eligible for reimbursement. Any work that is begun by the Applicant prior to receiving a written notice to proceed from the City will not be eligible for reimbursement.
5. The City will rebate a portion of the cost of eligible building improvements as described in the Program Guidelines. Reimbursement claims for all eligible expenses for completed improvements must be accompanied by the following supporting documents: applicable planning and building permits, canceled checks and paid invoices/receipts for eligible work.
6. Upon completion of the work, the City shall record a conditional lien on the property in the full amount of City’s monetary grant to Applicant; and Applicant hereby consents to such lien. The lien shall remain in effect until the terms and conditions in Exhibit “A” have been fully complied with or the lien amount in favor of the City has been paid in full.

7. After the work has been completed, Applicant shall display a sign or banner (provided by the City) indicating participation in the Central Business District Historic Building Restoration and Improvement Grant Program. The sign shall be displayed either on the exterior or in the front window of the building for a period of thirty (30) days.
8. Applicant agrees to allow the City of Sherman or its agents access to buildings and improvements, when convenient for all parties, for inspection of the Central Business District Historic Building Restoration and Improvement Grant Program work.
9. In accordance with the terms of this Agreement, the Applicant shall hire all personnel and pay for all labor, materials, tools, transportation, services, City business license, licenses and permits necessary to perform or cause to have performed, all work as specified in the Application. Applicant is aware of Labor Code Section 3700, which requires work compensation insurance or self insurance for employees.
10. Upon the signing of this Agreement, the Applicant shall have a period of ninety (90) days in which to take out a building permit. Work shall commence within sixty (60) days of the approval date of the building permit and be completed within twelve (12) months thereafter. Extensions, if warranted, may be granted at the discretion of the City. No change to work without the written consent of both the City and Applicant will be permitted.
11. The Applicant shall give all notices required and comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and codes and shall, at their expense, secure and pay all said fees and charges for the performance of the work.
12. Applicant understands and agrees that the City and its officers, agents, and employees, shall have no responsibility or liability of any failure or inadequacy of performance or defective workmanship or materials in regard to the agreed-upon improvements. Applicant does hereby agree to fully and completely indemnify, release, defend and hold City, its officers, employees and agents, harmless from all claims, losses, liabilities, damages, suits, actions or proceedings, including attorney fees, by any person including Applicants, their employees and agency from personal injury, death or real or personal property damage from any cause whatsoever in whole or in part arising out of this Agreement or the activities completed hereunder. This indemnification and hold harmless shall not include the sole negligence or willful misconduct of City, its officers, employees or agents.
13. Applicant acknowledges that he is aware that the money being provided to him through this agreement comes from the City's Hotel/Motel Tax revenues; and Applicant further acknowledges and agrees that he has independently determined that the project contemplated by this agreement and the submitted application complies with the State law regarding the use and application of such money, as set forth in the Texas Tax Code at Chapter 351, Section 351.101 and, in particular, that the project will enhance and promote tourism by attracting visitors from outside the City and that the project will enhance the historical restoration, rehabilitation, or preservation of a historic structure. Applicant further acknowledges and agrees that, if the project is determined at any time not to comply with Chapter 351 of the Texas Tax Code, any and all money acquired from the City by Applicant for this project shall be immediately and fully reimbursed to the City.

EXECUTED on this the _____ day of _____, 20____.

City of Sherman:

Applicant(s):

By: _____
L. Scott Wall, City Manager

By: _____

Name:_____

By: _____

Name:_____



**CITY OF SHERMAN
CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT HISTORIC
BUILDING RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

Rebate Claim Form

Program Participant(s): _____

Project Address: _____

Interior Improvements:

Type:

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
Sub-Total	\$ _____

Exterior Improvements:

Type:

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
Sub-Total	\$ _____

Total Rebate Amount (per Program Guidelines): \$ _____

I/We hereby make a formal claim for reimbursement of the above-indicated expenses incurred in improving the interior and exterior of the subject property under the City of Sherman Central Business District Historic Building Restoration and Improvement Grant Program. I/We certify that the expenses incurred are as listed and have attached invoices marked “paid” and copies of cancelled checks in support of the claim.

Date: _____

Applicant

Applicant