## MEDIA RELEASE



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## City of Norfolk Announces Façade Improvement Grant Launch

**NORFOLK, VA** – The City of Norfolk's Department of Economic Development announced today that it will launch a new Façade Improvement Grant as part of the Commercial Corridor Program on Tuesday, August 1, 2023. The grant portal will be open and accessible to the public for 6 weeks, from August 1<sup>st</sup> through Friday, September 8, 2023.

In Fall of 2022 the Pilot Phase of the Commercial Corridor Program was announced. The goal of the Commercial Corridor Program is to revitalize and grow the City's main streets and neighborhoods by addressing specific areas and their needs, assisting small businesses with commercial real estate technical assistance, and funding provided by the city through state and federal grants.

Norfolk's new Façade Improvement Grant was created in partnership with the business community to revitalize urban commercial corridors and uplift the surrounding neighborhoods they serve. The Façade Grant will offer eligible commercial building owners and small businesses the means to undertake exterior and interior renovations, such as fresh paint, new signage, improved lighting, and aesthetic and operational upgrades that align with the areas' unique character.

Applicants must be a Norfolk-based business or commercial property owner at the time of submission. A full list detailing applicant qualification, eligibility requirements, and grant parameters will be available at Noon on Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup> on the Norfolk Economic Development website at **norfolkdevelopment.com/resources/commericalcorridorprogram.** 

The City of Norfolk is a vibrant and diverse community dedicated to fostering economic growth, community development, and sustainable progress. The Façade Improvement Grant is a testament to our commitment to enhancing the visual appeal of our commercial corridors and strengthening the bond between businesses and neighborhoods. With this initiative, we embark on a journey of transformation that will pave the way for a brighter and more prosperous future for all.

For additional information about the Department of Economic Development for the City of Norfolk initiatives and programs, visit norfolkdevelopment.com.