



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request



Requested Meeting Date:

Title of Item:

<p>REGULAR AGENDA</p> <p>CONSENT AGENDA</p> <p>INFORMATION ONLY</p>	<p>Action Requested:</p> <p>Approve/Deny Motion</p> <p>Adopt Resolution (attach draft)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i></p>	<p>Direction Requested</p> <p>Discussion Item</p> <p>Hold Public Hearing*</p>
<p>Submitted by:</p>		<p>Department:</p>
<p>Presenter (Name and Title):</p>		<p>Estimated Time Needed:</p>
<p>Summary of Issue:</p>		
<p>Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:</p>		
<p>Recommended Action/Motion:</p>		
<p>Financial Impact:</p> <p><i>Is there a cost associated with this request?</i> Yes No</p> <p><i>What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$</i></p> <p><i>Is this budgeted?</i> Yes No <i>Please Explain:</i></p>		

2023 Revitalization Grant Program

#	Applicant Name	Project Name	Contact Name	Email	City	Phone	\$ requested	\$ Awarded	Informed
25	McGregor Home Center	exterior upgrades	Troy Johnson	tjsinspection@gmail.com	McGregor	218.390.5821	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
26	McGregor Baking Company	exterior upgrades	Katie Nelson		McGregor		\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	
							\$ -	\$ 9,000.00	

Remaining \$ 60,422.00



Application for Aitkin County Business Revitalization Grant Program 2023

1. Grant requests should be submitted by EMAIL to:
mark.jeffers@co.aitkin.mn.us, subject line: Revitalization Grant 2023 or
by mail to:
Mark Jeffers
Aitkin County Government Center,
307 2nd Street NW, Room 316,
Aitkin, MN 56431.
2. Funding recommendations will be considered at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Aitkin County Economic Development Committee.
3. Committee recommendations will be submitted to the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners for final approval.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Business Name: McGregor Home Center LLC

Address: 94 Maddy Street McGregor, MN 55760

Person in Charge of Project: Troy Johnson

Organization Mailing Address (Street Name or P.O. Box or Route and Box # and City and Zip Code):

PO Box 27

McGregor MN 55760

Contact Person's Phone #: 218-390-5821

Contact Person's Email: tjinspection@gmail.com

Description of your organization: Office Rentals-Neighborgoods Store

Mission Statement of your organization:



FUNDING:

Amount requested from Aitkin County \$ 5000
 (Minimum \$1000, maximum request is \$5,000). The Economic Development Committee may recommend to the Board of Commissioners to increase or decrease the amount awarded at their discretion. The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners grants the final approval for funding.

Amount of the business' match \$ 8000

Total projected budget \$ 13000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Be concise and complete; attach supporting information if needed.

McGregor Home Center is a historic building in downtown McGregor. It was once home to Joe's Hardware. Over the years required maintenance has been done to fix leaks and protect the interior from further damage from water and ice. In its current condition it needs cosmetic updates to finish the exterior. It is located directly across from the railroad tracks and is one of the first buildings visitors see as they come into the downtown area. The exterior project would bring new life to the building and the downtown. The front of the building will be reinsulated, framed and resided. A custom thermopain door would be added and lighting will be incorporated into the building to increase awareness of the renter's signs. The updates and repairs are considerably more costly due to the age of the building. Our design plan is simple and will take into account the history of this building, but the updates will make a considerable impact for our tenants and visitors. We hope to begin this project in the beginning of August and have it completed prior to are large community event- Wild Rice Days

PROJECT BUDGET: in the space below, provide a budget for the entire project.

Category	Grant Funds	Applicant Funds	Total
Framing materials for reconstructing front and roof line	\$1500	\$1500	\$3000
Lighting-to be integrated into building exterior	\$1500	\$1500	\$3000
New custom entry door	\$1000	\$1500	\$2500
Exterior Siding and Trim	\$500	\$2500	\$3000
Exterior Paint and finishes	\$500	\$1000	\$1500
TOTALS	\$5000	\$8000	\$13000

Will your organization accept a grant if it is partially funded? Yes, any help with funding this project would be greatly appreciated.

Along with your application, please attach all documents that will assist the committee in their decision. Examples may include drawings or sketches of planned awning or signage upgrades, detailed quotes of work to be accomplished (if available).

Business Owner Signature:

Name 

Date: 7-5-23



AITKIN COUNTY BUSINESS REVITALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Aitkin County has received Federal Fiscal Recovery Funding from the American Rescue Plan Act. The Fiscal Recovery Fund was established to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery. The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners, have approved funding to be used to directly impact the Community of Aitkin County by establishing the Aitkin County Business Revitalization Grant Program.

The purpose of this grant fund is to help support local businesses to upgrade/revitalize the outside presence of their business property in our community in an effort to drive economic growth. As business owners and members of our community, it is important that we establish and maintain an image of growth and success. The fund will help support upgrades of awnings, signage, outdoor aesthetics and general business image and appearance.

Grant Guidelines: Guidelines for application and awarding of Aitkin County Business Revitalization grants are as follows:

1. **Funding Limits:** Minimum of \$1000 and a maximum of \$5,000 per grant application. The Economic Development Committee may recommend to the Board of Commissioners to increase or decrease the amount awarded at their discretion. The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners grants the final approval for funding.
2. **Matching Funds:** The Aitkin County Business Revitalization grant Program is intended to leverage locally funded promotions and not replace that funding. Significant consideration will be given to the amount and quality of matching funds/in kind contributions when grant applications are evaluated by the Economic Development Committee and County Board. Applicants are required to provide a 1:1 match of all funds awarded.
3. **County-Wide Distribution:** The intent of this program is to provide assistance throughout Aitkin County. Consideration shall be given to amounts awarded and number of grants approved for any particular region of the county to ensure that an equitable level of funding is available throughout the county.
4. Grant funds shall not be used to pay the salaries of part or full time staff associated with your business activity. Funds shall not be used for any type of prizes or other material items that may be offered, awarded, sold or given away.
5. Aitkin County Business Revitalization Grant funds may not be used to reimburse expenses occurred prior to grant approval by Aitkin County.
6. The Aitkin County Economic Development Committee will rank applications based on creativity and beautification concepts.
7. **Eligible Project Examples:**
 - Improvement of exterior building and/or entry aesthetics.
 - Replacement of weathered awnings or signage.
 - Exterior business area revitalization to existing structure(s).



8. Eligible organizations:
- Businesses located in Aitkin County.

Application Procedure: Guidelines for applications are as follows:

1. Grant requests should be submitted by EMAIL to: mark.jeffers@co.aitkin.mn.us, subject line: Revitalization Grant 2023 or by mail to:
Mark Jeffers
Aitkin County Government Center,
307 2nd Street NW, Room 316,
Aitkin, MN 56431.
2. Funding recommendations will be considered at the regularly scheduled monthly meetings of the Aitkin County Economic Development Committee in 2023. Application deadline is **ongoing until all available funds are awarded.**
3. Committee recommendations will be submitted to the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners for final approval.

Reporting Requirements

1. Applicants that are awarded a Revitalization Grant are required to submit proof of fund use prior to the end of the one-year grant period. Reporting information documents and deadlines will be included in the award letter.
2. Economic Development staff will collaborate with grant award winners to verify qualified grant use.
3. Unused funds at the conclusion of the one-year grant period must be returned to Aitkin County.

Further information and additional forms and materials may be obtained by contacting:

Mark Jeffers
Aitkin County Economic Development Coordinator
218-531-6188
mark.jeffers@co.aitkin.mn.us



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Application for Aitkin County Business Revitalization Grant Program 2023

1. Grant requests should be submitted by EMAIL to:
mark.jeffers@aitkin.mn.us. Subject line: Revitalization Grant 2023 or
by mail to:
Mark Jeffers
Aitkin County Government Center,
307 2nd Street NW, Room 318,
Aitkin, MN 56431.
2. Funding recommendations will be considered at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Aitkin County Economic Development Committee.
3. Committee recommendations will be submitted to the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners for final approval.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Business Name: *McBregor Baking Company*

Address: *42360 170th Place
McBregor MN 55760*

Person in Charge of Project: *Katie Nelson*

Organization Mailing Address (Street Name or P.O. Box or Route and Box # and City and Zip Code):
same

Contact Person's Phone #: *218-349-72-50*

Contact Person's Email: *knelson0922@gmail.com*

Description of your organization:

McBregor Baking Company focuses on consistency and follow through. Delivering a product to satisfy customers. MBC provides donuts, muffins, pastries, breads, sandwiches and soups daily.

Mission Statement of your organization:

McBregor Baking company consistently provides outstanding customer service and high quality baked goods, raising above our customers expectations.



FUNDING:

Amount requested from Aitkin County \$ 4,000
 (Maximum \$1000, maximum request is \$5,000) The Economic Development Committee may recommend to the Board of Commissioners to increase or decrease the amount as they see fit at their discretion. The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners grants the final approval for funding.

Amount of other sources' match: \$ 4,000

Total projected budget: \$ 8,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Be concise and complete; attach supporting information if needed.

We purchased The Moregor Baking Company June 2023. We desire to improve the outside aesthetic with new signage, comfortable outdoor seating and a large mural on the side of the building. The grant funds will be greatly appreciated to

PROJECT BUDGET: in the space below, provide a budget for the entire project.

Category	Grant Funds	Applicant Funds	Total
Concrete patio & garbage slab	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Logo/signage	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
Furniture	\$1,500.00	\$1,500	\$3,000
Outdoor signage	\$1,000.00	\$1,000	\$2,000
TOTALS	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$8,000.00

Will your organization accept a grant if it is partially funded?

Along with your application, please attach all documents that will assist the committee in their decision. Examples may include drawings or sketches of planned awning or signage upgrades, detailed quotes of work to be accomplished (if available).

Business Owner Signature:

Name Karen Nelson

Date: 7/24/23