

# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

<i>Agenda Section:</i> <b>New Business</b>	<i>Originating Department:</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>No:</i> <b>5</b>	<b>Community Development</b>	<b>02/07/22</b>
<i>Item:</i> <b>Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants Program</b>		
<i>No.</i> <b>5.4</b>		

## SUMMARY OF REQUESTED ACTION:

The Community Development Department is planning to apply for funds from the National Parks Service's Paul Bruhn Revitalization Grant Program. The purpose of the program is to encourage reinvestment and rehabilitation of historic properties in the Downtown Historic Districts and foster economic development by preserving the integrity of downtown buildings.

Eligible properties must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, contributing properties in historic districts, or determined eligible for listing at the National, State, or have local historical significance.

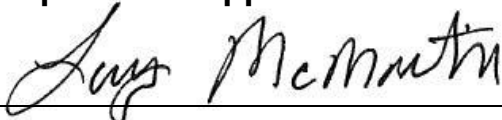
The objective of the program is to allow Winona's continued work in preserving the legacy created by those who came before us for present and future generations by providing up to 75% of rehabilitation costs and the business and/or property owner will cover the remaining 25% of the project costs. The program funds are to be used for exterior rehabilitation, such as, tuck-pointing, woodwork, façades, roofs, brick, and signage.

The grant request is \$750,000 and up to 25% of the grant amount can be used for administrative costs to carry out the program. It is anticipated the program will financially assist the completion of eight (8) to twelve (12) projects in the two (2) Downtown Historic Districts. Seventy-nine (79) properties would be eligible to use the funds. The application deadline is February 22, 2022 and awards will be announced in August. The program is expected to award twelve (12) grants.

Staff sought input from community members and downtown business/property owners with historic properties and were informed that funding from the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants Program would assist them in moving forward with rehabilitation projects and be a catalyst for additional investment in downtown. Input also included the economic significance of the program, as many of Winona's downtown historic properties include commercial spaces where entrepreneurs and small business develop and thrive.

If awarded, staff will present the agreement between the National Park Service and the City of Winona for the Council's consideration at a future meeting.

**Department Approval:**



**City Manager Approval:**



## **Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants Program**

### **Page 2**

---

Attached for Council's consideration is the Letter of Support for the Paul Bruhn Revitalization Grant Program application. The Port Authority will consider a Letter of Support at their February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting and the Historic Preservation Commission at their February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

If the Council concurs, a motion to authorize the Mayor to execute the Letter of Support would be appropriate.