

City of Alachua Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)
Business Façade Grant Program
Funding Priority Rating Sheet

ABOUT

The Business Façade Grant Program Funding Priority Rating Sheet offers a point system that rates how well the proposed Project meets the objectives listed in the CRA Amended Community Redevelopment Plan and the CRA Market Study & Economic Development Implementation Plan. Projects must get a **minimum of 30 points** to be eligible for Façade Grant Program Funding.

Through the façade improvement grant program, the CRA provides assistance to businesses to improve the attractiveness of their properties, and thereby works to achieve the CRA's goal to rehabilitate, conserve, and redevelop the Community Redevelopment Area. The CRA strives to improve economic development, historic preservation, and streetscape through grant program projects.

1. Economic Development

It is the CRA's intention to incentivize business opportunities that enhance the character of the CRA Area. A diverse balance of places to shop, walk, meet and make acquaintances is an important objective for the district to achieve long-term economic resilience. As listed in the CRA Market Study & Economic Development Implementation Plan, businesses types that the CRA is focused on are specialty markets, sporting goods stores, coffee shops, bakeries, antique stores, breweries, and bed and breakfasts.

<u>Economic Development</u>	<u>Points Total</u>
Facade is visible from Main Street, US 441, or SR 235 or is located within a block of a cross-street to Main Street US 441, or SR 235.	
YES	5
NO	0
Business is a use recommended to be targeted to revitalize downtown by the <i>Alachua CRA Market Study & Economic Development Implementation Plan</i> (see page 40):	
YES	10
NO	0
TOTAL	5

NOTES:

2. Historic Preservation

Rehabilitation of historic properties is an important CRA objective. As encouraged in the CRA Community Redevelopment Plan, historic properties “should be maintained and respected in a manner that upholds their integrity as cultural resources.”

The National Register of Historic Places has designated an area within the CRA as the “City of Alachua Downtown Historic District”. There are 102 buildings within this district designated as structures that add to the historical integrity or architectural qualities of the District, referred to within the Master Site File as “contributing structures”. Improvements to these structures should preserve and restore the historic nature of the building.

Structures that are not listed as contributing to the City of Alachua Downtown Historic District should be considerate to the historic nature of its surroundings, and improvements made under the Program and should complement the character of the District as a whole.

<u>Historic Preservation</u>	<u>Points Total</u>
If the property is a “contributing structure” to the City of Alachua Downtown Historic District the proposed improvements restores or preserves the historic nature of the building.	
Poor	0
Fair	10
<u>Good</u>	<u>20</u>
If structure is not a “contributing structure” to the City of Alachua Downtown Historic District, the proposed improvements respect the historic character of the Community Redevelopment Area and the Downtown Historic District.	
Poor	0
Fair	5
Good	15
TOTAL	20

NOTES:

3. Streetscape & Aesthetics:

Commercial areas benefit from enhanced streetscapes for pedestrians. Such improvements can lead to better connectivity between commercial businesses within the district. Improvements that help to create a safe and pleasant experience for pedestrians include: human scale lighting, large bay windows, decorative entries, transparent windows, awnings, and a variation of façade materials. By accommodating pedestrians, the space can become a place where people want to be, further activating them.

<u>Streetscape Aesthetics and Functionality</u>	<u>Points</u>
Improvements enhances building aesthetics on a pedestrian scale and creates an overall streetscape of visual interest.	
Poor	0
Fair	10
Good	20
TOTAL	
Improvements are complementary to surrounding buildings.	
Poor	0
Fair	10
Good	20
TOTAL	

<u>Improvement</u>	<u>Points</u>
Current condition or appearance of the building façade.	
Poor	20
Fair	10
Good	0
TOTAL	60

NOTES:

4.

TOTAL POINTS EARNED:	25
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Notes: