

## **North End Neighborhood Organization Revitalize the North End IV Neighborhood STAR 2021 Program Guidelines**

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of the Neighborhood STAR grant is to assist owners or leasees of small businesses to apply for grant dollars to improve the exterior/interior of their building and to improve the public right of way and private open spaces including but not limited to benches, garbage receptacles using artistic components

### **Boundaries:**

Commercial properties and public right of way located in the North End Neighborhood bounded by Dale Street, 35E, Larpenieur Avenue and the Burlington RR Tracks are eligible to apply. The goal of the program is 60% of available funds will be utilized on the Cultural Destination (Rice Street) and at least 60% of available funds will be allocated to women owned or leased and/or minority owned or leased businesses. Priority will be given to businesses that have not received STAR funds in the past. Consideration will be given to businesses that increase job opportunities.

### **Objectives:**

- To encourage business improvement and development by offering grants to businesses and property owners
- To stimulate private investment for projects that enhances the appearance of commercial buildings and businesses
- Percentage of funds to minority and women owned
- Vacant spaces will be given priority
- Create local jobs for residents
- Create local destinations for shopping
- Grow economic vitality of the neighborhood
- Invest in improvements that demonstrate the vibrancy of the neighborhood both private and public
- To encourage business owners to adopt green building standards for new buildings and use energy saving equipment- electrical, appliances, HVAC systems.

### **Eligible Uses:**

Funds can be used for both exterior and Interior improvements or public right of way, public areas, private open spaces

### **Required Match:**

There will be a one to one match required

### **Public Benefits:**

- Support business nodes in the North End
- Improve the visual attributes of commercial buildings
- Be consistent with neighborhood plans
- Improve the visual quality of the neighborhood
- Revitalize vacant spaces

**Site Control:**

Applicants need to have site control of the property through ownership or lease of at least seven years  
Applicants who are tenants must have a signed lease and property owners written approval

**Selection Process:**

Applications will be submitted to the North End Development Team for recommendation. NEDT utilizes a scorecard to rank individual applications. If recommended the project moves to the North End Neighborhood Organization Board of Directors for final approval. This is first come first serve opportunity and there is no guarantee your project will be funded.

**Project Administration and Compliance:**

The North End Neighborhood Organization will administer the grant. Staff will assist applicants with all compliance requirements.

**Closing Fee:** The grantor shall collect from the grantee a closing fee of up to 1.0% of the principal amount of the grant.

**Reimbursement:** The North End Neighborhood Organization shall request funds be disbursed from the City once work is completed and compliance is satisfied. Reimbursement will then be made to the applicant.