Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant Program
PAUL BRUHN HISTORIC REVITALIZATION GRANTS PROGRAM

A National Park Service (NPS) grant program designed to assist economic development in rural communities

Rural=cities with less than 50,000 population

Grants for brick & mortar work on National Register-listed historic buildings
PAUL BRUHN HISTORIC REVITALIZATION GRANTS PROGRAM

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the Ohio History Connection applied for and received a grant to provide funding for historic properties in selected cities in Ohio’s Appalachian region: Cambridge, Coshocton, Marietta, Millersburg, and Portsmouth.

Any building owner with a historic property in the downtown is welcome to participate in the initial phase of submitting, prior to the Main Street program choosing 1-2 finalists.

Heritage Ohio is administering the grant on behalf of SHPO.
Up to $520,345 is available for funding with 1-2 projects per community selected

We envision equally splitting the grant funding to about $100,000 per community, or $50,000-$100,000 per property
Your local Main Street America program will evaluate initial applications of interest from building owners and select 1-2 finalists to submit to SHPO & Heritage Ohio for evaluation and final selection of grants.

Any building owner with a historic property in the downtown is welcome to participate in the initial phase of submitting, prior to the Main Street program choosing 1-2 finalists.
ELIGIBILITY

Your building must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, either individually or as a contributing resource in a historic district.

Your property must be income-producing (owner-occupied properties are NOT eligible to participate).

Past Main Street board members who have not served on the board since January 1, 2021 are eligible to participate as property owners.
ELIGIBILITY

Grant funding for brick & mortar work must adhere to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation (more on that later), the Architectural Barriers Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

A cash match of 10% is required: An application requesting a grant of $50,000 would be required to provide a minimum $5,000 match, for a minimum project total of at least $55,000.
ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Eligible grant activities include expenses for:
Brick & mortar rehabilitation of the interior/exterior
Architectural/Engineering work to create plans and specifications
Preservation Consultant oversight during construction (finalists submitted by their community will have the option of working with a preservation consultant retained by SHPO)
INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

However, activities such as:
- Landscape expenses
- Property acquisition costs
- Furnishings
- Building additions
- Costs incurred either before the grant agreement is executed or after the grant deadline
- Routine maintenance

Are NOT eligible expenses
If your building project is chosen…

Ahead of the June application deadline you will have the opportunity to work with a Preservation Consultant who will:

Perform a basic assessment of the building, identifying priority areas for rehabilitation

Provide a review to strengthen your application document
IF YOUR BUILDING PROJECT IS CHOSEN...

Grant agreement with SHPO

Submit a Scope of Work doc as part of agreement

Project undergoes Section 106 & NEPA review to ensure good historic preservation practices are followed
IF YOUR BUILDING PROJECT IS CHOSEN…

The construction period will run through April 2024 (prevailing wage is NOT required)

Heritage Ohio will be checking in regularly to ensure the project is moving ahead according to plan

Accept a preservation agreement or covenant on the property
THE PRESERVATION COVENANT:

Insures the property owner maintains the property in good condition, and will not make alterations without the written permission of Heritage Ohio/SHPO, and that any alterations will not compromise the historic character of the building.
Covenant terms vary depending on the size of the grant funding:
Grants up to $50,000: 5-year preservation agreement (not required to be attached to deed)
Grants $50,001-$250,000: 10-year preservation covenant attached to deed
Grant disbursements will be made on a reimbursement basis.

Reimbursement options include full grant payment at the end of the project, or a 50% reimbursement of expenses at least halfway through the project with the remainder reimbursed at the end of the project.
IF YOUR BUILDING PROJECT IS CHOSEN…

GRANT REPORTING

We will submit grant reports to NPS every 6 months and we will reach out to request estimates on project hours, in-progress photos, etc.
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, December 8, 3pm: Standards for Rehabilitation Webinar

Wednesday, January 12, 3pm: Bruhn Application Webinar

February 14: Your Main Street America program will send their finalists project(s) to Heritage Ohio

February-June: Finalist projects work with Preservation Consultant to complete grant application
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

June 2022: SHPO/Heritage Ohio-selected panel make final application selection

July 2022: Grantees execute grant agreement w/SHPO

Grant deadline for construction completion: April 2024
Questions?