

## **Destination Entertainment Incentives**

### **Section 1. Principal**

The Principal of the Destination Entertainment Grant is the Elgin Economic Development Corporation (EDC).

### **Section 2. Purpose**

The principal purpose is to enhance the economic sustainability of the City of Elgin by recruiting unique entertainment and dining destinations with multi-generational amenities to fill a gap in the market and stimulate new construction by providing financial assistance to qualified applicants.

### **Section 3. Applications**

Any eligible person, partnership, joint venture, corporation, or other business entity may apply. *However*, owners of multiple businesses shall be allowed only one application per Funding Cycle and may not file multiple applications for each of their various businesses.

### **Section 4. Funding**

Funding is provided by the Elgin Economic Development Corporation. The amount is determined by the scope of the project as noted in Section 8.

### **Section 5. Funding Cycle**

A funding cycle shall be from October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> of a given year. For each funding cycle the EDC may, but is not obligated to, designate an amount of funding for that cycle. The EDC shall be under no obligation to utilize all designated funds during a funding cycle. Upon depletion of the designated funds the EDC may, at its sole discretion and without any obligation to do so, elect to fund additional grants during a given funding cycle. The EDC may elect, but is not obligated to do so, to hold over any pending applications; however, the EDC is under no obligation to establish future funding cycles.

### **Section 6. Eligibility to Apply**

#### **Destination Entertainment & Experience:**

- A. Have the capability to attract customers from outside the community.
- B. Unique to market concept
- C. Impact to the Community
- D. Sales Tax Implications
- E. Capital Investment
- F. Facility location and capacity
- G. Multi-generational Amenities
- H. Examples: Movie Theater, Live Music Venue, Family Entertainment Center, Brewery, Winery, Sports Entertainment Complex, Golf

#### **Destination Dining:**

Criteria to be considered but is not limited to.

- A. Unique to market concept
- B. Multi-generational amenities with indoor & outdoor dining capacity.
- C. Community Involvement
- D. Regional Draw
- E. Sales Tax Implications
- F. Does not have an existing location within a 10-mile radius.

**Section 7. Ineligibility: The following are ineligible for the Destination Entertainment:**

- A. A property for which state or local taxes are in arrears.
- B. Outside ETJ
- C. A restaurant with drive-thru only or limited table service.
- D. A concept that is replicated in the Elgin market.
- E. Nightclubs and adult-only entertainment venues.

**Section 8. Funding is on a case-by-case basis depending on the following factors:**

- A. Job Creation
- B. Capital Investment
- C. Impact to the Community
- D. Unique qualities of the project
- E. Sales tax implications

**Section 8. Guidelines**

- A. Proof of facility ownership may be required of applicants operating a business in an Applicant owned facility.
- B. An Applicant operating on a leased property or facility must provide a copy of a (minimum) five-year lease term.
- C. Improvements shall be made in accordance with project drawings, specifications, and/or other information provided with the application. Failure to do so will render the Applicant ineligible to receive funding. Any material modifications to the drawings, specifications, and/or other information provided with the application must first receive the written approval of the Economic Development Board of Directors.
- D. Applicants must follow the development services process and are obligated to obtain all applicable permits and approvals related to the project. Failure to do so will render the Applicant ineligible for funding.
- E. The improvements as presented in the application must be completed in their entirety before grant funding will be made. Incomplete improvements will render the Applicant ineligible for grant funding.
- F. Upon submission of a grant application to the EDC, and during the EDC's review of the application, a representative or representatives of the EDC shall have the right of access to inspect the work.
- G. Must be occupied within 18-months after receiving approval. Unless contract stipulates a different agreed upon timeline.

**Section 9. Pre-approval Process:**

Applicants must seek pre-approval by applying to the EDC before work begins or purchases are made with all back up data attached, such as building plans, job creation projections and development timeline.

**Section 10. Application & Approval**

- A. Applications must be made on a form provided by the EDC.
- B. Applications will be considered by the EDC Board at monthly board meetings of the EDC, applications and all required attachments must be submitted a minimum of 10 business days before consideration date.
- C. Consideration of applications may be delayed in the event the EDC fails to seat a quorum for a regular meeting, elects for any reason not to hold a regular monthly meeting, or elects for any reason not to consider FIGP or SGP applications at any particular meeting.
- D. The EDC reserves the right to utilize whatever outside resources it deems necessary for assistance in its decision-making process.
- E. Applicants will be notified in writing of the EDC's approval or disapproval of an application.
- F. The EDC may award Applicant a grant with certain provisions, conditions, or other requirements as it may from time to time deem appropriate.
- G. The EDC reserves the right to exercise its absolute discretion in determining approval or disapproval of an application, whether or not such discretion may be deemed arbitrary, or without basis in fact.

**Section 11. Standards**

The following factors, among such others as the EDC may deem necessary, shall be considered in determining whether or not to award a grant:

**Section 13. Amendment**

The EDC reserves unto itself the rights to, by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, amend these Guidelines as it may from time to time find desirable.

**Section 14. Notice**

- A. THE PROVISION OR DELIVERY OF THESE GUIDELINES TO AN INTERESTED PARTY DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER OF AN IMPROVEMENT GRANT TO THAT PARTY.
- B. THE ADOPTION OF THESE GUIDELINES DOES NOT LIMIT THE DISCRETION OF THE EDC TO DECIDE WHETHER TO PROVIDE OR NOT PROVIDE A GRANT TO AN APPLICANT, WHICH ABSOLUTE RIGHT OF DISCRETION THE EDC RESERVES UNTO ITSELF, WHETHER OR NOT SUCH DISCRETION MAY BE DEEMED ARBITRARY OR WITHOUT FACTUAL BASIS.

**I/We have received and read these Guidelines for the Small Business Assistance Program and agree to be subject to them.**

**APPLICANT(S)**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_