



The goal of the Business Improvement Grants is to support the mission of the Jade District by contributing to the power, health, and stability of the folks who currently live, work, pray and play in the Jade District. We expect this program to increase the economic stability of residents by improving the district in a way that supports the needs of the community. The Jade District identified four key strategies to meet this mission, including small business development, green space, transportation justice, and affordable housing.

Selection Process:

Evaluation of the Business Improvement Grants is conducted by a group of volunteers from the Jade District Steering Committee. Applicants must fill out a basic application of interest outlining the goals and scope of the project. The decision to fund a program is determined by the criteria below and the available resources. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until all available funds designated to these grants for the year are distributed.

If selected, businesses are expected to work with the PCC SE Campus Small Business Development Center to develop a detailed project plan including budget, timeline and any licensing requirements. After a detailed project plan is created with help from the Small Business Development Center, the Jade District Steering Committee must make a final vote to approve the project and enter into a contract with the business owner and property owner to complete the project.

Selection Criteria

Commitment to Jade District Mission, Values, and Visioning (25)

How does this project address the mission of the Jade District through the four strategies in our strategic plan or the needs identified in the Visioning?

1. Small Business Development
2. Transportation Justice
3. Green Space
4. Affordable Housing

For example, a lighting project may address small business development and contribute to transportation justice by creating a safe, walkable space in front of a business. A landscaping project may contribute to both of the above and provide public green space for residents.

TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE: 120

Realistic Scope, Budget, and Timeline (35)

Does the project scope meet the requested budget? If anything goes wrong, will costs and time to implement match the general scope of the project?

Sustained Improvement (20)

Will the project permanently improve the district in a way that addresses the mission and values outlined above?

Maintenance (10)

Can the business owner commit to maintaining the improvement including graffiti removal? What is the likely need for maintenance for the proposed project?

Local Contracting and Suppliers (10)

Does the project proposal include a commitment to using local contractors, particularly contractors located within in the Jade District? Does the business currently have a relationship with local contractors already in mind?

Business sustainability (20)

Is this business likely to remain for the next 3-5 years? Does the business own the land they occupy or are they in a long term lease? Does the business have a demonstrated longevity and commitment to the neighborhood?