

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE INCENTIVE PROGRAM ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT GROWTH & EXPANSION (EDGE)

The EDGE Economic Development Infrastructure Incentive Program supports the development of new and expanding manufacturing and food service-related businesses that are located within Lakeland's City limits through a \$10,000 dollar-for-dollar matching grant. Assistance may be provided to qualified projects through electric, water and wastewater utility connections and upgrades, installation of attached fixtures, grease traps, backflow preventers, venting systems, sprinkler systems, solid waste and recycling management and engineering services for electrical, mechanical, and plumbing upgrades.

APPLICATION

- Completed and signed application
- Notarized letter from property owner
- Project description and schedule
- Letter of support from a local small business resource such as, the Lakeland Chamber, the Lakeland CRA, Catapult or the LEDC
- Estimate of cost for the infrastructure improvements requested

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- Small and mid-sized manufacturers that use innovative technology to make and improve customizable products and/or processes that drive the economy for customers.
- Businesses that are food related ventures, such as sit-down restaurants, coffee/tea shops, bakeries, commissary kitchens, grocery store, produce market, micro-brewery, distillery, health food store or other specialty food store.
- Financial assistance is intended for the rehabilitation and restoration of existing properties only.
- Project must be outside of a designated CRA.

ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS

- Electric, water and wastewater utility connections
- Installed and attached features, including grease traps, backflow preventers, venting systems, and fire sprinkler systems
- Solid waste and recycling management
- Engineering services for electrical, mechanical, and plumbing upgrades (not to exceed 20% of the grant total)



The following items are specifically ineligible for the program:

- Equipment that is not attached or affixed to the building/structure
- Furniture
- Interior design fees
- New construction

Improvements must be consistent with the City of Lakeland's Land Development Regulations and Engineering Standards. Grant funds may not be used to correct code violations or to bring a structure up to current code.

Applicant is responsible for obtaining or having obtained all required local and state approvals and permitting for the work to be completed.

FUNDS & DISTRIBUTION

- The maximum available matching grant per project shall be \$10,000.
- The incentive shall be distributed on a first-come first-serve basis to qualified applicants that submit a completed application.
- Matching funds shall be provided to the applicant after proof of Certificate of Occupancy (CO) has been provided.
- Once the incentive funds annual distribution has been depleted, no additional projects shall be funded until the incentive is replenished by the City Commission in the next fiscal year.
- Unencumbered dollars within this incentive fund shall rollover annually.

PROCESS

Qualified applicants must submit a complete application to the City Manager's Office on the 3rd floor of City Hall at 228 S. Massachusetts Avenue. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. City staff will review the application for completeness against the review criteria. A letter of acceptance will be provided to applicants that successfully meet the criteria of the program. Incentive funds will be reimbursed to qualified and approved projects in one payment after proof of Building Permit and Certificate of Occupancy.