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The City of Chester Launches New Façade Initiative as Part of Effort To Bring Energy Back to the Central Business District

CHESTER, Pa. (July 15, 2024) – The City of Chester today announced the launch of its Facade Enhancement Initiative (FEI), a comprehensive program aimed at revitalizing the city's Central Business District (CBD) and elevating the aesthetic appeal of its commercial buildings.

In Phase I of the program, the FEI will focus specifically on the 400-500 blocks of Avenue of the States. Beginning in 2025, the City will oversee facade improvements, including storefront reconstruction, signage upgrades, painting, lighting enhancements, and other decorative elements. The target completion date for all projects is by the end of 2026.

“Chester is open for business, and the Facade Enhancement Initiative is a crucial step in our ongoing efforts to rejuvenate the heart of Chester's commercial district," said Mayor Stefan Roots. “By investing in the aesthetic side of our community, we are not only elevating the visual landscape of our city but also cultivating a sense of community pride and attracting new businesses and visitors to Chester.”

The FEI program will provide grants of up to $50,000 per property to eligible commercial building owners, allowing them to transform their establishments' visual appeal. Priority will be given to applications from minority and women-owned businesses, reinforcing the city's commitment to equitable development.

The FEI application period will run until July 31, 2024.

Visit www.chestercity.com/facade for the program trailer and more information. Property owners can contact Fiona Hew-Wing, the City of Chester FEI, at FHewwing@ChesterCity.com for more information. News about Chester City Government can be found here.

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