



**Main Street Iowa Challenge Grant**  
**Czech Village/New Bohemia Grant Nomination Process**  
**Nomination deadline Friday August 4th, 2017 at noon (submitted via email**  
**[crmainstreet@gmail.com](mailto:crmainstreet@gmail.com) or delivered to CVNB Main Street office: 1107 3<sup>rd</sup> St SE)**

Main Street Iowa and the Iowa Economic development Authority has announced the availability of Main Street Iowa Challenge Grants This funding is provided from a state appropriation for the Main Street Iowa Program to assist with improving the physical and economic health of the designated Main Street districts. This state appropriation will allow Main Street Iowa to offer matching Challenge Grants to participating communities for vertical infrastructure projects.

All Iowa Main Street districts, including Czech Village/New Bohemia, are eligible for the Main Street Challenge Grant funds. The CV/NB Main Street organization may apply on behalf of **ONE project**. Eligible projects must be within our district boundary. (See attached map of our District). State awards will be dispersed to chosen beneficiaries by the local Main Street district organization.

Projects that will be considered can include:

- Rehabilitation and/or restoration of privately held properties within the designated Main Street district. This can include, but is not limited to:
  - Facade improvements (Front, rear and side)
  - Upper floor interior rehabilitation
  - Structural repairs/improvements
  - Code compliance
  - First floor interior rehabilitation
  - Energy efficiency/sustainability improvements
  - Single specific phase of a large rehab. The project must have a specific defined focus and clearly identifiable scope of work including start/end dates and milestones for completion.
- Compatible New Construction including building additions with first floor commercial and upper floor(s) commercial or residential within the designated Main Street district. Razing of an existing structure to allow for new construction will not be considered an eligible use of funds.
- Multiple Properties committed to a mutually agreed upon improvement or series of improvements located within the designated Main Street district. All multiple properties applications must be connected by a common need or issue that defines the scope/type of proposed project. For instance, a series of rear entrances visible from a parking lot; the removal of inappropriate slipcovers/siding materials and façade restoration for a number of buildings, multiple upper floor rehabilitations, etc. Multiple properties are not required to be contiguous. However, close physical proximity does improve the project impact within the district. Multiple property projects may include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - Installation of an elevator and common hallway linking several buildings;
  - Sprinkling of multiple properties with a central master control room.
  - Handicapped accessibility improvements serving multiple buildings/storefronts like a common ramp or lift.

- Energy efficiency/sustainability upgrades like green roofs for multiple buildings, geothermal well fields, etc.
- Improvements to the facades (front or rear) of a highly visible group or block of buildings;
- Upper floor rehabilitation for a number of properties.

**Plans will be considered locally on intent to follow preservation standards, architectural significance, need, developers/owners commitment to complete the project, uniqueness, and impact on the district and community.**

The maximum dollar amount to be awarded per project(s) will be \$75,000 with a minimum award of \$15,000. Each structure included as part of a multiple property application must meet the individual minimum project investment threshold of \$15,000 grant/\$30,000 minimum total investment.

EXPENDITURES/MATCH: A 100-percent, dollar-for-dollar, cash match is required. No previous expenditures of any kind will be considered as suitable cash match for a project. This statement applies to both new applicants and additional submissions for phased projects.

The match requirement may include necessary project "soft" costs for professional service i.e. architectural or engineering studies directly related to the project/property.

NOTE: Previous Grant Beneficiaries (projects/buildings) who are completing a large, phased project may apply for additional Main Street Iowa Challenge Grant funding so long as the scope of work authorized in the previous award is complete and all funds dispersed.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**

***Late applications will not be considered.*** Only completed applications including all required documentation will be reviewed.

**Czech Village/New Bohemia Main Street District is looking for worthy project(s) in our urban district. Interested parties should complete the attached application, including a summary of the project, and email or hand deliver it to Jennifer Pruden, (crmainstreet@gmail.com) Director of the CV/NB Main Street, no later than 12:00 p.m., Friday August 4, 2017. Applicants are encouraged to fill out the form to the best of their ability. Questions can be submitted to Jennifer Pruden by email, please include a phone contact number. The review committee may contact the applicant during the review period if they have any questions.**

**Plans must meet all local code requirements, Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, and comply with the defined Iowa Green Streets criteria of IEDA.**

From these local nominations, developers/property owners will be asked to prepare a brief presentation for the CV/NB Main Street Nominating Committee, and be prepared to make a 10 minute presentation on Monday, August 21, 2017, first presentation starting at 4:30 p.m. Finalist will be chosen by Wednesday, August 23, 2017.

CV/NB Main Street will work with the selected applicant to submit a full proposal and application. Final applications must be reviewed by CV/NB Main Street prior to submission. Completed applications must be submitted online by Friday, September 29, 2017. Only completed applications including all required documentation will be reviewed.

**Please note: No deadline extensions can or will be allowed in this nomination process, and Cedar Rapids is not guaranteed funding in this program.**

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**Project Summary**

**Applicant Name, Address, Phone, Email:**

**Type of project (see list of eligible projects above):**

**Address of the Property/Building Site:**

**Architectural Significance:**

**Project Description: What do you want to do? Be specific and, if needed, use another sheet of paper. 200 words or less.**

**Project Impact: Why do you want to do it?**

**Challenge Grant Request Amount:**

**Estimated Cost of the Project:**

**Possible sources of funds for the project:**