



INVEST HAGERSTOWN – Fire Suppression System Grant Summary and Guidelines

PROGRAM GOALS

1. In partnership with private developers, the City of Hagerstown wishes to:
2. Inspire and enable significant redevelopment, both city-wide and in the urban core, reusing and repurposing existing vacant and under-utilized properties, in which there are significant market and/or physical condition barriers to development or redevelopment.
3. Create the opportunity for new jobs throughout the City of Hagerstown and Washington County.
4. Increase the value of Hagerstown’s residential, commercial, and mixed-use properties.
5. Strengthen and improve market rate rental properties and increase homeownership.

Program Summary

The goal of the Fire Suppression System Grant Program is to contribute to adding lifesaving fire suppression systems and lower the financial barriers associated with the installation of Water Service/Fire Lines, Meter Vaults, Water Meters, and other components directly associated with the addition and/or upgrade of a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) compliant fire suppression system. This program is subject to funding availability and operates on a first-come, first-served basis. All projects must pertain to residential, commercial, or mixed-use buildings.

1. The Fire Suppression System Grant can be utilized toward any/all expenses directly associated with installing or upgrading NFPA-compliant fire suppression systems required to meet current Code standards. Examples include:
 - a. Installation of Automatic Sprinkler Systems;
 - b. Costs related to an increase in Water Service/Fire Lines;
 - c. Installation or Upgrade of Meter Vaults;
 - d. Install New or Upgrade/Replace outdated heads/piping;
 - e. Replace mains/backflow devices
2. Grants require a 1:1 match from the applicant. Example: a \$25,000 grant would require an additional \$25,000 investment from the applicant for a total project investment of \$50,000. *Matching* costs can include all work related to fire suppression system installation (interior and exterior).

3. A project must be defined as planned or pre-construction. Work must not begin until the City provides applicant with both City and MHT approval. Projects must be completed no later than 9 months from Review Committee approval and receipt of Letter of Commitment. The applicant will be required to demonstrate expenditures equal to the grant and the required match related to work that was completed.

The program provides a grant to approved projects for the following amount:

FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM GRANT AMOUNTS		Required Applicant Match	Overall Project Total
Grant Minimum	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$15,000
Grant Maximum	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000

*The minimum total project cost is \$15,000. Projects that exceed \$80,000 for combined Sprinkler and Utility Infrastructure upgrades are still eligible to apply, but can only receive a maximum combined grant of up to \$40,000.

I. Eligibility Criteria

1. Fully residential, commercial, professional office, retail, and mixed-use projects.
2. Projects are within the City's Sustainable Communities Area (see attached map).
3. Applicants shall be in good standing with the City of Hagerstown.
4. Total project cost, must demonstrate a minimum 1 for 1 match.
For example, a \$25,000 grant application must show a \$25,000 developer match for total project costs of \$50,000.
5. Fire Suppression projects related Water Service Installations associated with bricks and mortar renovation projects with service meters that are four (4) inches or larger.
6. Application must be aligned with the City of Hagerstown's overall vision for the city.

II. Ineligible Applications

1. Projects that are already underway or completed.
2. Fire suppression system installation or upgrade projects that are compliant and operable with a water service meter sized less than four (4) inches are not eligible for this grant funding.
3. Projects that do not meet the minimum investment threshold.
4. Applicants who are not in good standing with the City, County, State or Federal Governments.
5. Non-profit businesses or organizations.
6. Grants will not be provided for properties containing certain types of businesses, including: pawn shops, gun shops, massage parlors, adult video/book shop, adult entertainment facilities, tanning salons, check-cashing facilities, gambling facilities, tattoo parlors, liquor stores.

III. Funding Guidelines

1. Funding may be secured by multiple sources.
2. Applicants may apply and utilize other grant and incentive programs.
3. No City loans, grants, or pass-through funding may be used as a part of the applicant's match.

IV. Grant Process

1. A development plan, which outlines the renovation schedule and major components of the project, shall accompany the application form.
2. Applications shall be reviewed by the Invest Hagerstown Review Committee, consisting of:
 - a. Planning & Economic Development Director
 - b. Finance Director
 - c. Community Development Manager
 - d. Neighborhood Services Manager
 - e. Economic Development Specialist
3. Applications will be accepted on a continual basis based on funding availability and the Invest Hagerstown Review Committee will review new applications each month.

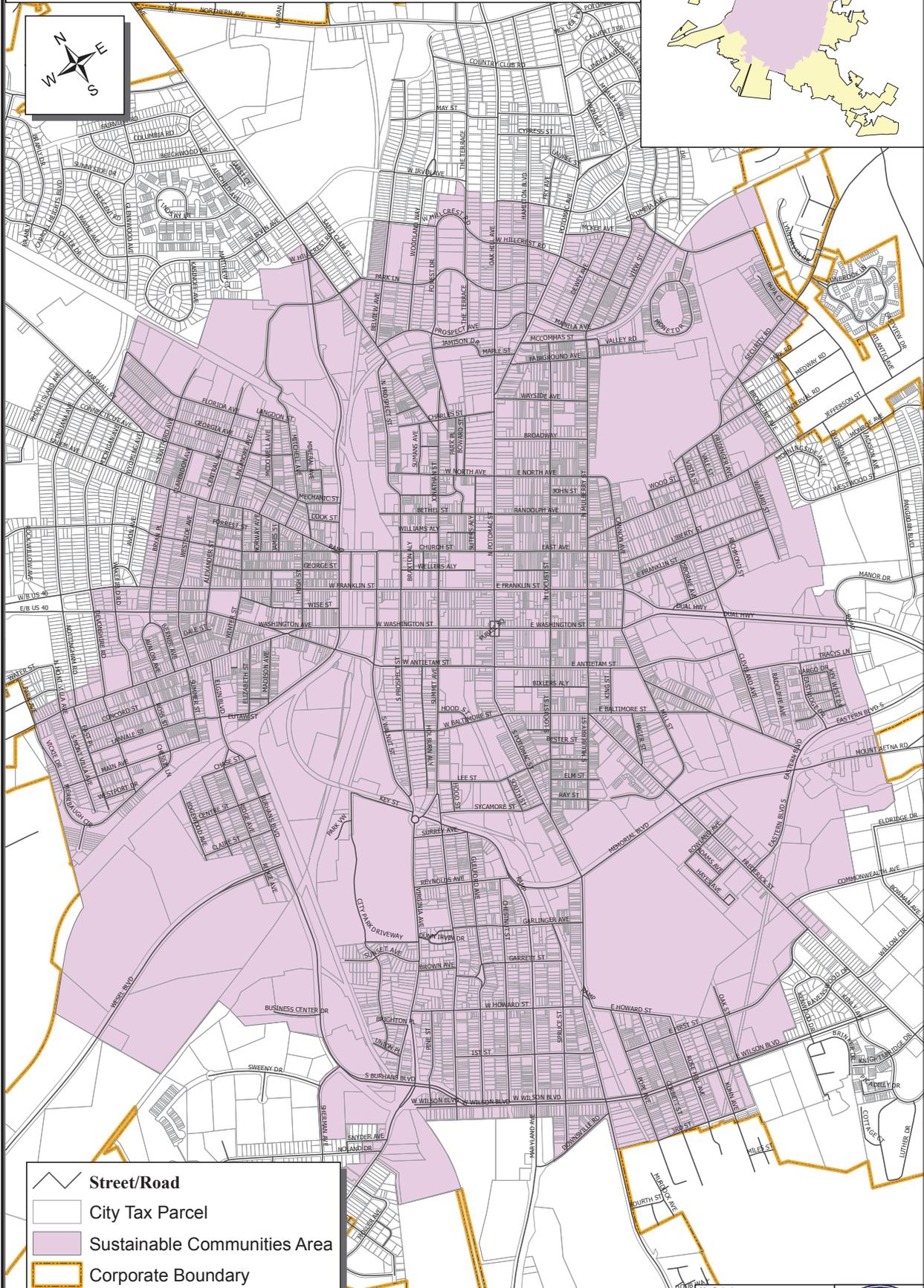
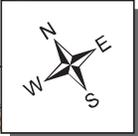
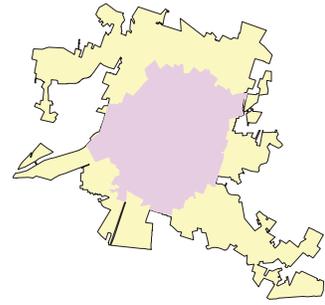
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4. The Invest Hagerstown Review Committee will evaluate the application against the following criteria:
 - a. Adherence to the Eligibility Criteria outlined in Section I, Paragraphs 1 through 6
 - b. Consistency with goals of the **Fire Suppression System Grant** program
 - c. Impact on immediate neighborhood
 - d. Financial feasibility of proposed funding sources
 - e. Potential for job creation
 - f. Development experience of applicant
 - g. Proposed timeline and completion date
 - h. Investment impact
 5. Approved applications will receive a Letter of Commitment from the City of Hagerstown which may be used to assist in financing the project.
 6. The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) must approve all applications for design review. Applicant is required to provide a scope of work, project plans, photos of structure and other relevant project information. Once applicant submits this information, **DPED** will forward the project proposal to MHT for review.
 7. The project will be regulated through the Planning and Code Administration Department, Utilities Department, and Fire Department.
 8. Monthly status updates shall be supplied by the developer to the City of Hagerstown Department of Planning and Economic Development – dped@hagerstownmd.org .
 9. When the fire suppression aspect of the project is complete according to the approved application and development plan and the system receives all required inspection approvals, the City shall award the grant money with proof of project expenditures and proof of matching fund expenditures.

Return application to:

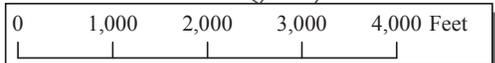
City of Hagerstown
Department of Planning & Economic Development
32 N. Potomac, Second Floor, Hagerstown, MD
21740 Phone: 301-739-8577 ext 111
Email: dped@hagerstownmd.org

[vs. 11.25.25]

City of Hagerstown Sustainable Communities Area



	Street/Road
	City Tax Parcel
	Sustainable Communities Area
	Corporate Boundary



Map Projection:
NAD83 State Plane Maryland FIPS (feet)
Data Sources:
City of Hagerstown, 2008
Washington County, 2007
Prepared by:
Hagerstown Planning Office, 9/30/11
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