



CITY OF ELGIN

Façade Improvement Program

I. TARGET AREA

A map indicating the program's target area is enclosed. The building for which assistance through this program is sought must be located in the target area.

II. TYPE OF ASSISTANCE

Owners of property or businesses located within the Center City District who complete improvements costing a minimum of \$1,000 may receive a grant equal to 35 percent of the cost, to a maximum of \$100,000, with an additional \$50,000 provided to high-impact projects. Owners of property or businesses located within the State Street and National Street corridors who complete improvements costing a minimum of \$1,000 may receive a grant equal to 50 percent of the cost, to a maximum of \$50,000. Improvements must be approved in advance, and each eligible improvement will be funded only once. However, an applicant may present a project in phases, with completion scheduled within two years. Facade renovations of upper floors may be eligible if first floor improvements are included in the project or if the existing ground floor is compatible with the original building architecture as determined by the City's staff architect. In addition to financial assistance, approved applicants will receive a conceptual design and an outline work specification prepared by an architect under contract with the City.

III. ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS

The program is designed for improvements ranging from minor repairs and painting to complete facade renovation. Eligible improvements include brick cleaning and tuck pointing, painting, signs, window display area remodeling, exterior lighting, window and/or door replacement, awnings, restoration of original architectural features, and other improvements that are visible from the street and have a positive impact on the appearance of the building. Awnings and canopies may be used as a design element if those features are compatible with the original building design and complement the building's architectural features. All facades generally visible from a public right-of-way, including front, sides and rear of building, are eligible for the Façade Improvement Program. Detailed architectural design work is an eligible cost under the program.

IV. INELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS

Mansard roofs and fixed shingle canopies will not be eligible costs under the program. Sandblasting of brick will not be funded under the program, and the program will not participate in any project which includes sandblasting, or any other abrasive cleaning method. It is also not the purpose of the program to finance ongoing improvements which may be considered part of the building's regular maintenance.

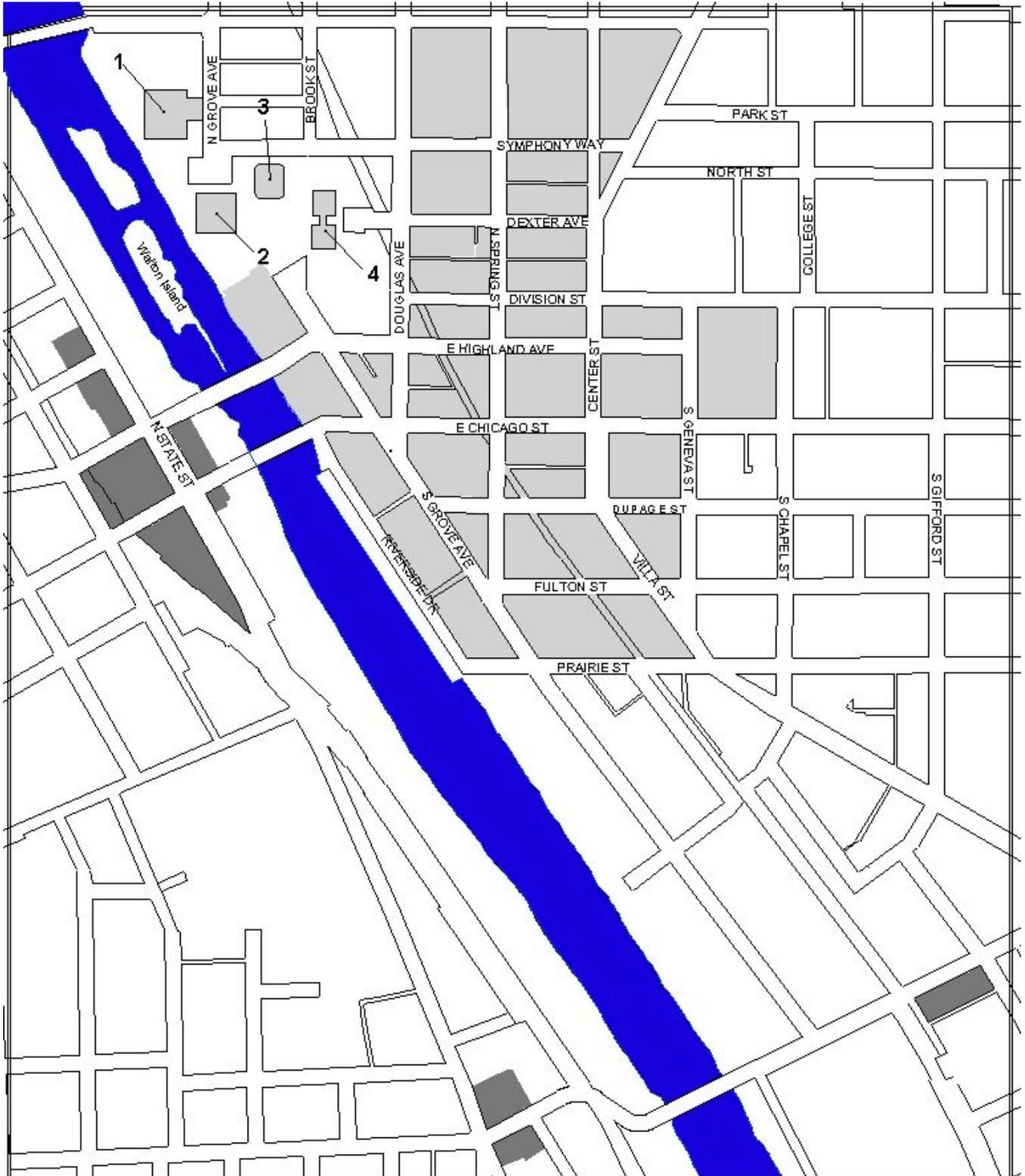
V. APPLICATION

Merchants or property owners should request a copy of the complete Elgin Façade Improvement Program guidelines and application form. The completed application should be submitted to the Program Coordinator along with a \$50 non-refundable application fee.

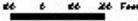
VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Please direct questions and comments regarding this program to: Economic Development Department, I City of Elgin 150 Dexter Court Elgin, IL 60120 or call 847-931-5667.

VII. TARGET AREA MAP



City of Elgin
Facade Improvement Program - Target Area

<p>Program Boundaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Center City State & National Street Fox River 	  	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gail Borden Library 2. Appellate Court 3. Municipal Building 4. Civic Center
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Map prepared by the City of Elgin - Department of Planning & Neighborhood Services, November, 2001, updated 05/02.