

Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant Program Cleveland Street Café District

Program Description

The Clearwater Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), offers financial assistance to qualified property owners or tenants seeking to furnish approved sidewalk café areas within the Cleveland Street Café District. The Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant Program makes available one-time grants of up to 75% of the total project cost, up to a maximum of \$2,500 per grant, for outdoor furniture specified in an approved site plan from the City's Planning Department.

Financial Availability

The CRA/DDB has established funding for the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant Program through its current budget. Grants are available on a first come, first serve basis.

Eligibility

An applicant for the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible for the grant:

- Applicant is a property owner or tenant operating a business within the Cleveland Street Café District with an approved Sidewalk Café Permit;
- Applicant has submitted a completed Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant application to the CRA;
- Property taxes are current; and
- All state and local code and licensing requirements for the business have been met.

Street furnishings purchased prior to the receipt of a completed application for the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant by the CRA staff will be ineligible to participate in the program.

This grant is exclusive of, and in addition to, any other financing, loans, or grants to which property owners or tenants may avail themselves.

Qualified Furniture

Sidewalk café furniture, including tables, chairs and umbrellas, must be complementary to the aesthetic character of the Cleveland Street Café District and be of quality materials and workmanship so as to sustain outdoor use (refer to requirements in *Section 3-201.C. Sidewalk Cafes*, Clearwater Community Development Code). Applicants are strongly encouraged to seek the assistance of CRA staff in the selection of furnishings to be funded under Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant program. CRA staff maintains a reference catalog of CRA approved street furnishings to help applicants with furniture selection. Other furniture may be determined to be acceptable if it meets the characteristics of qualified furniture set forth in this paragraph.

Grant Application, Review and Award Process

In the following, step-by-step instructions for the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant application, review and award process are provided:

Step 1. – Applicant initiates the sidewalk café approval process by attending a pre-application conference with the Planning Department and beginning the sidewalk café approval process set forth in Section 3-201.C. Sidewalk Cafes, Clearwater Community Development Code.

Step 2. – Applicant meets with CRA staff to obtain the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant application, discuss the conceptual plans for a sidewalk café in the Cleveland Street Café District and review reference catalogs of CRA approved street furnishings.

Step 3. – Applicant completes the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant application and submits to CRA staff, including a copy of the proposed or approved sidewalk café site plan.

Step 4. – CRA staff reviews the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant application for compliance with program requirements and guidelines. CRA staff makes recommendation to the CRA Executive Director, or designee, as to the approval or denial of the application and, if applicable, the dollar amount of the grant award. This step may occur concurrently with the review of sidewalk café site plan and Sidewalk Café Permit.

Step 5. – Via written correspondence, CRA staff notifies the applicant of the CRA's decision relative to the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant application. If the CRA's decision is to award the grant, the steps below shall apply.

Step 6. – The applicant may install sidewalk café furnishings prior to the CRA's decision on the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant application and after approval of the Sidewalk Café Permit. In so doing, the applicant acknowledges that there is no guarantee of a grant award and that costs for furnishings will be born by solely by the applicant if the CRA does not award a grant.

Step 7. – The CRA will reimburse the applicant for those furnishings specified in the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant application upon satisfaction of the following:

- a. Proof of approved Sidewalk Café Permit;
- b. Proof of purchase for specified furnishings;
- c. Inspection of the sidewalk café by CRA staff for consistency with information provided in completed Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant application; and
- d. Executed grant agreement between the applicant and the CRA Director.

For More Information

For more information on the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant Program or to schedule required pre-application meetings for your sidewalk café site plan or grant application, please contact:

**Sidewalk Café Grant Program
Community Redevelopment Agency**
600 Cleveland Street, Suite 600
Clearwater, Florida 33755
Telephone: (727) 562-4044
Fax: (727) 562-4059

**Sidewalk Café Site Plan and Permit
Planning Department**
100 S. Myrtle Avenue, 2nd Floor
Clearwater, Florida 33756
Telephone: (727) 562-4567
Fax: (727) 562-4865

APPLICATION FOR SIDEWALK CAFÉ FURNITURE GRANT

<i>Application Must Be Submitted in Person [Do Not Mail]</i> SECTION ONE – GENERAL INFORMATION		
<i>Applicant Information:</i>		
Name:		
Address:		
Phone:	Fax:	Email:
<i>Sidewalk Café Business Information:</i>		
Business Name:		
Physical Address:		
<i>Property Owner Information:</i>		
Name:		
Address:		
Phone:	Fax:	Email:
Property Legal		
Description:		

GRANT AGREEMENT # _____

GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CLEARWATER COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND GRANTEE ESTABLISHING TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR SIDEWALK CAFÉ FURNITURE GRANT.

This Grant Agreement (AGREEMENT) is entered into by and between the Clearwater Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and _____ (GRANTEE) for the purpose of a grant award for sidewalk café furniture.

WHEREAS, a primary goal of the CRA is to create an enjoyable, functional and attractive environment within the Cleveland Street District; and

WHEREAS, the CRA believe that such environment is vital to the economic sustainability of the City of Clearwater and, therefore, to the welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the CRA wish to encourage such environment by means of incentives for the establishment of sidewalk cafes in the Cleveland Street District; and

WHEREAS, the CRA has determined that it is appropriate and in the best interests of the City and its citizens to offer an incentive in the form of a cash grant for sidewalk café furniture; and

WHEREAS, the CRA believes that it is appropriate and reasonable to expect the GRANTEE to bind itself to the CRA to produce certain results in conjunction with the sidewalk café furniture described herein as conditions of the incentive being offered by the CRA;

WHEREAS, the GRANTEE, whose mailing address is _____, has requested funding under the CRA Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant Program for furniture to be used in conjunction with the business located at _____ (BUSINESS).

WHEREAS, a site plan and Sidewalk Café Permit were approved by the City of Clearwater (CITY) for the BUSINESS on _____ and _____, respectively.

WHEREAS, the CRA has approved a grant award to GRANTEE in the amount of \$_____ for furniture described in the GRANTEE's Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant Application, dated _____.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants herein set forth, the parties hereby agree as follows:

This grant is awarded by the CRA to the GRANTEE subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. GRANTEE will comply with all requirements for the operations, location, design, maintenance and insurance for a sidewalk cafe set forth in Section 3-201.C. of the Clearwater Community Development Code (CODE).

2. GRANTEE acknowledges that the CITY reserves the right to inspect the sidewalk cafe at any time with or without notice to the operator to determine compliance with the CODE and any conditions attached to the sidewalk café, and may cause the immediate removal or relocation of all or any part of the sidewalk cafe or its fixtures in the interest of public safety.
3. GRANTEE will comply with all the terms and conditions of the Sidewalk Café Furniture Grant Program.
4. GRANTEE agrees to return grant funds to the CITY should the business close within one year from disbursement of funds.
5. By use of any permit granted hereunder, the GRANTEE agrees to indemnify, defend, save and hold harmless the CITY, its officers, agents and employees from any and all claims, liability, lawsuits, damages and causes of action which may arise out of the use of the public sidewalk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands and seals as of the day and year first above written.

GRANTEE

By: _____
[Name]

ATTEST:

Witness

CITY

By: _____
Amanda Thompson, Director
Clearwater Community Redevelopment Agency

ATTEST:

Rosemarie Call, City Clerk
City of Clearwater