

## Program Purpose

The purpose of the St. Charles Corridor Improvement Program is to provide opportunities for property owners to improve the aesthetics of major arterial streets and the downtown area through grant funds.

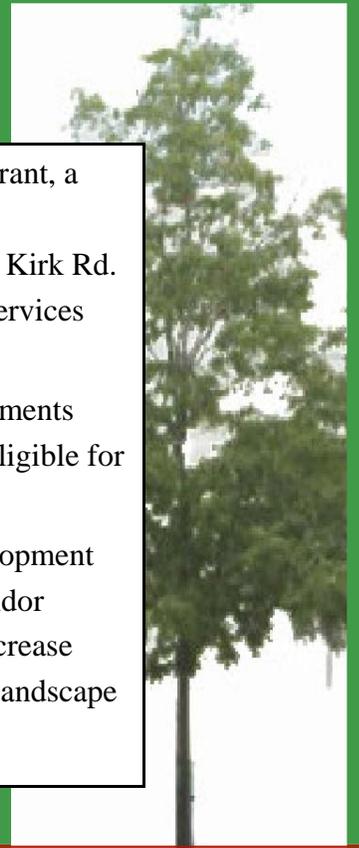
The intent of the Corridor Improvement Program is to promote:

1. The general enhancement of the overall economic vitality, character and general welfare of the City through improvement of private property.
2. Create a unified landscape aesthetic along the major corridors within the City of St. Charles.

## Property Eligibility

To be eligible for a Corridor Improvement Program reimbursement grant, a property must meet the following criteria:

1. The property must have frontage on Main St., Randall Rd., or Kirk Rd. The property may also be located in the Downtown Special Services Area (SSA1B)
2. Only improvements that go “above and beyond” any improvements required by the Zoning Code (Title 17 of the City Code) are eligible for reimbursement.
3. Properties that are subject to an approved Planned Unit Development (PUD), and meet eligibility criterion 1, are eligible for a Corridor Improvement Grant. The proposed landscaping must be an increase from the approved landscaping shown on the approved PUD landscape plan.



# Downtown Grants

## Eligible Costs

### Materials Funding of Downtown Grants

Matching funds for up to 50% of plant and other approved materials, labor, and soil preparation costs will be available. The Commission will provide funding for up to 75% of the design cost based on the below chart.

Design Funding of Downtown Grants		
Linear footage of street facing yard of a property located in the SSA1B	Owner Pays	Commission will Pay
< 200 feet	First 25% of Total Design Cost	75% up to \$2,000
201 – 500 feet	First 25% of Total Design Cost	75% up to \$3,000
501 + feet	First 25% of Total Design Cost	75% up to \$4,000

## Design Guidelines

### Example 1



### Guideline 1

Downtown Grants should create an interesting visual mix of landscape features along the area abutting the right-of-way of the eligible property. If the building foundation landscaping and front buffer yards fall within the area abutting the right-of-way these areas are also eligible.

### Example 2



### Guideline 2

Downtown Grants can incorporate plants and other landscape materials to create interesting landscaped vistas. Plant Species can be determined utilizing the Corridor Improvement Commission's Plant Palette.

### Example 3



### Guideline 3

Downtown Grants should incorporate a variety of perennials, ground covers, bushes, ornamental trees, mulch, and shade trees. These grants may also incorporate additional features such as, wrought iron fencing, decorative clocks, flower boxes, murals on blank walls, and decorative walls.



# Corridor Grants

## Eligible Costs

### Materials Funding of Downtown Grants

Matching funds for up to 50% of plant and other approved materials, labor, and soil preparation costs will be available. The Commission will provide funding for up to 75% of the design cost based on the below chart.

Design Funding of Corridor Grants		
Linear Footage of Property on a Corridor Roadway Main, Kirk, Randall)	Owner Pays	Commission will Pay
< 200 feet	First 25% of Total Design Cost	75% up to \$2,000
201 – 500 feet	First 25% of Total Design Cost	75% up to \$3,000
501 + feet	First 25% of Total Design Cost	75% up to \$4,000

## Design Guidelines

### Guideline 1

Corridor Grants should create an interesting visual mix of landscape features along the area abutting the right-of-way of the eligible property. If the building foundation landscaping and front buffer yards fall within the area abutting the right-of-way these areas are also eligible.

Example 1



Example 2



Example 3



### Guideline 2

Corridor Grants should create a generous mix of colors and textures. Plant Species can be determined utilizing the Corridor Improvement Commission’s Plant Palette.

### Guideline 3

Corridor Grants can incorporate a variety of perennials, ground covers, bushes, ornamental trees, shade trees, mulch, improvements that provide vehicular screening for parking lots, (walkways/sidewalks, pavers, stamped concrete, plazas, other permanent improvements designed primarily for pedestrian use), and walls.



# Four Season Grants

## Purpose

Each year the Commission will award up to five grants of \$1000 each. No cost match is required.

## Eligible Costs

The City will reimburse the applicant for up to \$1,000 of the cost of all plant material and installation.

## Design Guidelines

**Guideline 1**  
Four Season Grants should create an interesting visual mix of landscape features along the area immediately abutting the right-of-way of the eligible property. If the building foundation landscaping and front buffer yards fall within the area abutting the right-of-way these areas are also eligible. Grants should create a sense of continuity and design. Grants should create attractive, eye-catching additions of colorful perennial plantings .

**Guideline 2**  
Four Season Grants can incorporate plants and other landscape materials to create unique landscape aesthetics. Plant Species can be determined utilizing the Corridor Improvement Commission’s Plant Palette. Plants should be hardy perennial, hardy woody plants or bulbs. Native plants are encouraged. Elements Chosen should vary in height and specie. No annuals.

**Guideline 3**  
Four Season Grants should incorporate a variety of perennials, ground covers, bushes, ornamental trees, and shade trees. Each planting should offer bloom of some kind from April through October. Winter interest is encouraged (e.g. ornamental grass foliage). Mass plantings for commercial impact are allowed.

Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

