

**Main Street Iowa Challenge Grant
Czech Village/New Bohemia Grant Nomination Process
Nomination deadline October 15, 2009**

The Iowa Department of Economic Development has announced Main Street Iowa Programs are eligible for a grant to improve their district. This funding is provided from the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD), Neighborhood Initiative (NI) account for special projects, and is to be administered by the Iowa Department of Economic Development.

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/property**. 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:

- individual building rehabilitations or facade improvements,
- new construction to infill vacant property,
- open air performance structures - rehabilitation or new construction,
- mutually agreed upon improvement to a series of properties.

Plans will be locally judged 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 will be \$100,000 with a minimum award of \$15,000. A 100-percent, dollar-for-dollar, cash match is required. Other federal or state grant program awards may not be used to satisfy the cash match for the project/property. The match requirement may include necessary project costs for professional service, i.e. architectural or engineering studies. The project may not start until after the award is made and a required environmental review by HUD which may take up to 90 days after the award is made.

Czech Village/New Bohemia Main Street District is looking for a worthy project in our urban district. Interested parties should complete the attached application including a summary of the project and email it to Todd McNall, (tmcnall@live.com) member of the CV/NB Main Street board of directors, no later than 4:30 p.m., Thursday, October 15, 2009. Applicants are encouraged to fill out the form to the best of their ability. Questions can be submitted to Todd by email, please include a phone contact number. The review committee may contact the applicant during the review period if they have any questions.

The applicant should also review the full grant application for the State of Iowa in order to understand and realize the conditions and information required by the State application. The state application can be downloaded from www.newbohemia.org.

From these local nominations, two or three projects will be selected and developers/property owners will be asked to prepare a brief presentation for the CV/NB Main Street Design Committee, by October 30, 2009. A finalist will be chosen by November 3, 2009, and CV/NB Main Street will work with the principals to submit a full proposal and application to the Iowa Department of Economic Development by 4:30 p.m. Friday, November 20, 2009.

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:

Award Category: Individual Property; New Construction; Open-Air Performance Structure; Contiguous Property

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?

Estimated Cost of the Project:

Possible sources of funds for the project: