
**CITY OF EVANSTON
NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM**



The success of Evanston's Neighborhood Business District is essential to the vitality of the City. Neighborhood businesses strengthen surrounding neighborhoods, provide shopping and service opportunities for local residents, and attract customers from outside Evanston. The real estate and sales taxes paid by neighborhood businesses help to sustain the City's ability to deliver services throughout Evanston. Employment provided by such firms, especially for Evanston residents, contributes to the overall economic development of the City.

In order to help neighborhood business districts flourish, the City has initiated a Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program which will provide grants for eligible activities such as marketing campaigns, landscaping improvement, improved lighting, and signage. The program is intended for large and small neighborhood business districts. The City is also interested in funding other promising activities which meet the criteria described in the attached program description, but which the City has not thought of in the creation of this program. The City is committed to supporting collective action to stimulate and enhance neighborhood business districts through this program.

Please use the attached application form to submit your proposal. Eligible applicants include the following: business associations based in neighborhood business districts; collaborative efforts of three or more business owners in the same business district; and collaborative activities of two or more business owners and one or more not-for-profit organizations. We look forward to hearing from you. Do not hesitate to apply if you have an idea. All Neighborhood Business Districts are eligible for this program with the exception of Downtown Evanston which is served by numerous other City initiatives.

For additional information about the Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program, contact Morris Robinson, Economic Development Planner at (847) 866-2928. Staff assistance is available to help make your idea workable.

