

ABSTRACT

CREATIVE PROJECT: Façade Rehabilitation and Improvement Grant Program for Albion, Indiana

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This creative project develops a new façade grant program for the town of Albion, Indiana that incorporates guidelines for historic preservation. The town has a large tax increment financing district that was created in order to facilitate the economic development of town. Money from this TIF district has been used for infrastructure improvements and a façade grant program. Business owners within the TIF district are eligible for matching grants to improve their building facades. There are no restrictions on the grant money that require the building owners to rehabilitate their storefronts rather than just repair or renovate. Case studies of façade grant programs in three Indiana cities created in order to develop a new façade grant program for Albion. The new façade grant program would allow the town to realize some of the proven benefits of economic development through historic preservation.