



City of Clermont - CRA
BUILDING PERMIT REFUND PROGRAM
Criteria

I. Intent

It is the intent of the Clermont Community Redevelopment Agency (the "CRA"), under Part III Community Redevelopment Act, Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, to provide assistance to new businesses that may require new impact fees due to a change of use. This program would eliminate or reduce the impact fees in the Central Business District (CBD) to attract, retain and promote expansion of commercial, retail, office and restaurants.

II. Program Description

Building permit fees may be refunded up to 50% for targeted businesses within the CRA district.

There are three categories that are eligible for building permit fee refunds:

- New businesses locating in the CBD.
- Expansion of existing businesses in the CBD.
- Change of use of existing buildings in the CBD.

The CRA's *Building Permit Refund Program* provides a financial grant for eligible businesses for new construction or buildings that would normally be required to pay the full amount of building permit fees associated with the three categories listed. Grants will be awarded only in the CRA's redevelopment area and are eligible.

III. Eligibility

Applications will be considered only if they meet all of the following eligibility criteria.

1. Location and Clermont CRA Redevelopment Plan

The business must be located within the Clermont CRA's Redevelopment Area, as presented in the adopted CRA Redevelopment Plan, adopted in January 26, 2010. It must further the goals of the Clermont CRA Plan, inclusive of any subsequent amendments.

2. Applicants

Owners or tenants of real property within the Clermont CRA Redevelopment Area as described in the Redevelopment Plan, dated January 26, 2010. Property must be considered non-residential (e.g. commercial, retail, or restaurant) unless it is a mixed use (residential being a clear secondary use) according to the Clermont Comprehensive Plan and Zoning. Applicants for this program must be able to demonstrate financial capability to complete the project and long term commitment to maintain the property in the condition to which it will be renovated.

Any applicant business must be listed as a “CBD Targeted Business” as follows, unless otherwise approved by the Clermont CRA:

- Specialty shops (in general)
- Clothing store
- Shoe store
- Book store (WIFI)
- Coffee/Tea shop (WIFI)
- Restaurants – full service; ethnic
- Smoothie shop
- Kids – oriented/activity store
- Art Gallery – coop type
- Card/retail store (Hallmark)
- Bicycle/Rollerblade store; rental
- Bank; ATM
- Office supplies

The City encourages WIFI for any new business and existing businesses

3. Consistency with the CRA Redevelopment Plan.

Eligible projects must demonstrate consistency with the City of Clermont's Comprehensive Plan, Land Development Code, applicable zoning, and is consistent with the *CRA Redevelopment Plan*, as evidenced by a review from the City's Planning & Zoning Department.

4. Eligible Assistance and Funding

Building Permit refunds would cover up to 50% of permits used for new or reconstruction of existing buildings. Maximum \$5,000 CRA share.

The applicant must contribute at least 50% over and above the cost of the requested building Permit refund grant amount.

5. Application and Grant Availability

The applicant is advised that all grant funds are subject to availability as authorized by, and at the sole discretion of the CRA. Only one grant per building/unit every three (3) City fiscal years.

6. Disbursement of Funds

The CRA must approve in concept, any proposed refund. A maximum of 50% of the Building Permit fees for a change in use will be paid for at the time of building permit submittal.

* For more information about the Clermont *Building Permit Refund Program*, please contact:

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