



Oregon Heritage Resources for Downtown Projects



Funding Assistance through Oregon Heritage

Grants

- Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant
- Diamonds in the Rough
- Preserving Oregon
- Certified Local Government
- Heritage Programs

Tax Incentives

- Federal Historic Tax Credit
- Oregon Special Assessment



Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant

- Acquire, rehabilitate, and construct buildings on properties in designated downtown areas statewide; and
 - Facilitate community revitalization that will lead to private investment, job creation or retention, establishing or expanding viable business, or creating a stronger tax base.
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- The grantee must be an OMS Network member
 - Pass through to business or property owner making improvement
 - Up to \$400,000 with 70/30 match requirement
 - **If funded in the 2027 session, the awards will likely be in 2029.**



Diamonds in the Rough

- Restore or reconstruct facades of buildings that have been severely altered over the years
- Maximum of \$20,000; 1 to 1 match
- Must follow Secretary of Interior Guidelines for Historic Buildings



Newberg

- [Diamonds in the Rough grant info](#)



Stayton

Preserving Oregon Grants

- Must be listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places or as a “contributing property in a historic district
- Higher priority to publicly owned resources or private nonprofit
- Must follow Secretary of Interior Standards for rehabilitation of historic structures:
www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/rhb/stand.htm
- Examples of eligible activities include roof repair, foundation work, structural stabilization, repair of deteriorated historic features.
- [Preserving Oregon grant info](#)



Armory Window Repair – Cottage Grove



Independence

Certified Local Governments

Historic preservation in your community!

- The Certified Local Government (CLG) program is designed to promote historic preservation at the local level. It is a federal program (National Park Service) that is administered by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).
- Local governments must meet certain qualifications to become "certified" and thereby qualify to receive federal grants through SHPO and additional technical assistance.
- CLGs are eligible for non-competitive grants that fund work that supports the promotion of historic preservation including survey, nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, public education, training, etc.
- [CLG info - Learn more here](#)



Heritage Programs

Oregon Heritage Grants

- The Oregon Heritage Grant provides matching grants to non-profit organizations, federal recognized tribal governments, universities and local governments for projects that conserve, develop or interpret Oregon's heritage.

Oregon Museum Grant

- The Oregon Museum Grant supports Oregon, public and nonprofit, museums in projects for the collection and management of heritage collections, for heritage-related tourism, and heritage education and interpretations.
- Applications open January 2027

[Heritage Programs - Learn more here](#)



Federal Tax Incentive Credit

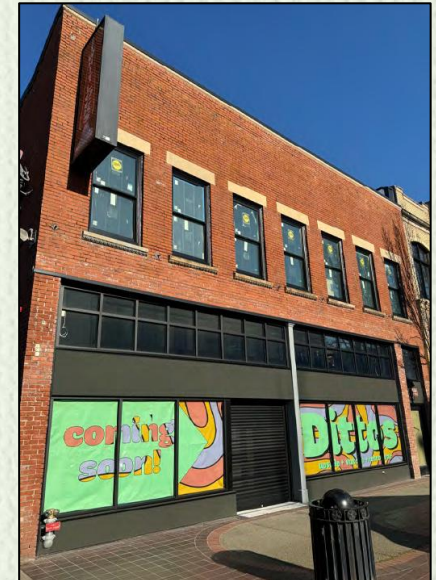
- There is a 20% Investment Tax Credit (ITC) available for rehabilitating, National Register listed historic buildings. The ITC is a percentage of the rehabilitation costs and does not include the purchase price. This is a tax credit, not a deduction.
 - Example: 20% of a \$100,000 rehabilitation = \$20,000 tax credit
- Before applying, consult your accountant or tax advisor to make sure that this federal tax credit is beneficial to you. Certain income and other restrictions may have a bearing on whether an owner is able to use the credit. IRS administers the Department of the Treasury's involvement with the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program.
- [Fed Tax Incentive Credit Info](#)



Special Assessment

- The State Tax Incentive is the Oregon Special Assessment Property Tax Program for Commercial Historic Properties. Oregon was the first in the nation to offer a preservation tax incentive for historic properties in 1975, and it has undergone numerous changes over the years.
- The Special Assessment program is a 10-year benefit for National Register-listed commercial properties, offering a property tax break in exchange for qualifying work being completed and meeting a spending threshold during the benefit period.
- [Special Assessment Info](#)

For information on Federal Tax Incentive Credit or Special Assessment program, please contact Joy Sears at 971-345-7219 or email Joy.Sears@opr.d.oregon.gov



Other Funding Resources

- National Trust Preservation Funds: Preservation education/projects/Small Deal Fund
- Transportation Growth Management: Outreach & Education grants for transportation related support
- AARP or National Realtors Association: Placemaking
- T-Mobile Hometown Grants to enhance community spaces
- Foundation, local funding, urban renewal – check with your local partners to learn more!



- ✓ *Work to revitalize downtown is broad.*
- ✓ *Set strategic direction and then align funding opportunities with the work that you want to accomplish.*
- ✓ *Partnerships are key!*



Thank You

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