Existing Business Grants

Barb's Pies and Pastries

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
Construction/Electrical Work	\$ 5,000.00	No	Building ower will help with this
Cosmetic Work; Paint, hanging baskets	\$ 1,500.00	Yes	\$ 1,940.00
Outdoor table & chairs	\$ 1,200.00	Yes	\$ 1,200.00
Double Gas Commerical Oven	\$ 3,500.00	Yes	\$ 3,500.00
Countertop Dough Sheeter	\$ 2,600.00	Yes	\$ 2,600.00
Hobart 20 quart mixer	\$ 2,500.00	No	Not needed
New Signs	\$ 1,200.00	Yes	\$ 760.00
Refrigerated display case	\$ 2,500.00	Yes	\$ 2,500.00
		Total:	\$ 12,500.00

Improving the façade and adding new signage, flowers, and outdoor seating will entice people to Downtown for a quick stop or time to visit. It was a major empty storefront on Main Street that will now be filled by the only bakery in Downtown Ferndale. Bakeries are often a destination and that is the goal here.

Adding an oven will increase production allowing them to keep up with the demand. This will hopefully alleviate having to turn down orders due to lack of capacity.

Adding a dough sheeter will allow the to expand the items they make thereby attracting more customers.

A refrigerated display case allows the customers to see more of what is produced in the bakery.

Update as of 3-3-23

Barb said she will get back to us but I believe she has completed her projects as well.

Cedars - Building Owner

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
Replace awning	\$ 18,000.00	Yes	\$ 18,000.00
Repair Wall above hair salon, siding, paint	\$ 8,000.00	No	
Install new door at Cedars basement	\$ 6,500.00	No	
New Paint for Building	\$ 18,000.00	No	
		Total:	\$ 18,000.00

Cedar's is another Downtown staple offering family friendly dining, a full service bar, and large outdoor deck. The building is accessible from both Main Street and 2nd Ave. The grant request is for the entry on 2nd Ave. The awning is noticeable from not just 2nd Ave but also the Main Street intersection. The awning is in disrepair and the look and feel of a new awning will make a difference in the general look of Downtown in addition to encouraging more people to check out their business. Many people park on Alder St. and walk by this location to get to Main Street so it is high visibility.

Update as of 3-3-23

The owners said they are rolling out with their projects at Cedars and Outlaws this month and the Main Street Bar and Grill this spring.

Dimitris - Business Owner

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approved (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
Menu refreshing and update	\$ 1,000.00	Yes	\$ 1,000.00
Employee hiring, pay raises and other benefits for existing staff	\$ 9,000.00	No	
Adding WIFI to internet service	\$ 1,000.00	Yes	\$ 1,000.00
Interior Remodel including:			\$ 25,000.00
Dining room window screens		Yes	
Carpet replacement		Yes	
Dining room lighting		Yes	
Interior Decoration		Yes	
Dining room ceiling boxes		Yes	
Dry wall replacement and painting		Yes	
Dining room furnature and service equipment		Yes	
Website updates and online activities	\$ 5,000.00	Yes	\$ 5,000.00
Refrigeration (maintenance/replacement/repairs)	\$ 5,000.00	No	
Advertising and Promotion	\$ 3,000.00	No	
		Total:	\$ 32,000.00

Dimitris is a long time staple restaurant in Downtown Ferndale. Covid hit their business very hard and they are looking to do a major update to their interior space as it has been a long time. They are hoping this will be the kickstart they need to get their past customers and new customers in to check them out. They are planning on a much needed website update to reach more people and keep customers up to date on their regular menu and daily specials. This is a family owned business who are personally invested in keeping their business succeeding and improving. They work onsite themselves and will be overseeing the project. We approved funds that support these goals.

Update as of 3-7-23

They have freshly painted the interior and installed new flooring throughout. Their next projects are the blinds and booth reupholstering.

Ferndale Mini Market

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated (Cost	Approved (Yes/No)	Items
Fuel dispenser upgrades.	\$	4,326.60	no	
Clean canopy, metal caps on end of supports. Pressure wash	\$	8,758.40	Yes	\$ 8,758.40
and paint the base of dispensers, paint bumpers and curbs,				
replace all ceiling tiles and remove and install new front countertop).			
New cigarette display	\$	2,324.04	No	
Improve cooler doors and racks	\$	2,531.37	No	
			Total:	\$ 8,758.40

Ferndale Mini Market is the only gas station located in Downtown Ferndale. In addition to gas, they sell many daily items that are easier to aquire with a quick stop here versus a longer trip to the grocery store. The store competes with many discount gas companies and so they try and keep the business as appealing as possible to keep it up and running efficiently for Ferndale. We approved items that we felt would keep the place looking clean and appealing.

The hope is this will encourage people to continue using

the store and encourage others to by and check it out as well if they haven't been in before.

Update as of 3-3-23

The owner said her project is complete except for the upper beams once the weather drys

FrinGe Brewing

Project Items and/or Description			
	Estimated Cost	Approved (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
New signage above entrances	\$ 1,500.00	No	
Additional lighting outside	\$ 800.00	Yes	\$ 478.26
Repair window ledge	\$ 2,000.00	No	
Re-upholstery of bench seating	\$ 1,600.00	Yes	\$ 1,592.45
Fix and extend HVAC	\$ 5,000.00	No	
Custom sun shades for front windows	\$ 2,100.00	Yes	\$ 3,031.17
Branded canopy tent for off-site events	\$ 1,300.00	Yes	\$ 1,298.58
Keg washer and filling manifold	\$ 15,000.00	No	
Keg purchases for increased distribution	\$ 4,000.00	No	
Ferndale Art's Commission Mural	\$ 4,000.00	No	
Promotional Merchandise	\$ 1,000.00	No	
Replace awnings	\$ 3,000.00	Yes	\$ 2,499.54
Paint rear of building	\$ 1,500.00	No	
Advertising and Marketing	\$ 1,500.00	Yes	\$ 1,400.00
		Total:	\$ 10,300.00

Fringe is a very success business and a favorite of many in Ferndale. They are looking to expand their reputation outside of Ferndale by broadening their distribution, advertising, and improving their existing space. They collaborate on a regular basis with other breweries around the county and will be able to continue these events drawing more people out to Ferndale to check them out. We approved funds for updating their space to make it more comfortable for new and existing customers, and funding for additional advertising to expand their range

Update as of 3-3-23

They have completed all but two of their projects. The lighting out front and the door awnings which are pending landlord approval. They are very pleased with the results so far!

Jensen's Floral

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
Paint building and signage	\$ 5,000.00	Yes	\$5,000.00
Add new displasy	\$ 2,000.00	No	
Cooler Upgrade	\$ 4,000.00	No	
Web Page Design Change	\$ 3,000.00	No	
		Total:	\$5,000.00

We approved grant funds for painting and signage for the façade of this business. By improving the look of the front of the building, people driving by will take notice of the business and hopefully stop here in Downtown for flowers or gifts instead of heading into larger stores. They are a long time family business at the back entrance into town and so will get good visibility from their location.

Update as of 3-7-23

They are waiting for the weather to improve to complete their project.

Main Street - Building Owner

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
Paint Building Outside	\$ 8,000.00	Yes	\$ 8,000.00
Build a Back Patio	\$ 35,000.00	No	
Front side of Building Garage Door	\$ 12,000.00	Yes	\$ 12,000.00
		Total:	\$ 20,000.00

The Main Street is one of the first buildings you see coming into Downtown over the bridge. They are the only business in Downtown that has live music, karaoke, and other events on their stage. The current façade is fairly dark and not very inviting though there is a lot of space inside. Their idea to modernize the façade with a roll up garage door would open the visibility up and lighten up the whole front of the business. This would allow people walking by to view the business as more inviting and a fun place to hang out. The exterior of the building is in need of new paint as the old signage is still visible where it was removed years ago. Being one of the first places people see, we believe these changes will be a huge improvement to the entry of Downtown.

Update as of 3-3-23:

They are working on the Cedars and Outlaws buildings right now and hope to start on the Main Street building by this summer

Outlaws - Building Owner

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items	
Removal and replacement of front and side awnings	\$ 16,000.00	Yes	\$	16,000.00
Paint Building	\$ 14,000.00	No		
Landscape along side of building	\$ 1,500.00	No	Business owner	
		Total:	\$	16,000.00

Outlaws is a beautiful building on a major corner of Downtown Ferndale. It is one of the only businesses open in the later evening. The awnings out front are in disrepair and it would make a very big difference on both the look of Downtown and the perception of the business to have these replaced with updated versions. The awnings are located on both Main Street and 2nd Ave so very high visibility.

Update as of 3-3-23:

They are working on the Cedars and Outlaws buildings right now and hope to start on the Main Street building by this summer

Outlaws - Business Owner

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items	
Landscaping	\$ 1,200.00	Yes	\$	1,200.00
New Bench from FDA	\$ 1,500.00	Yes	\$	1,500.00
Ashtrays x4	\$ 600.00	Yes	\$	600.00
Painting of Awnings	\$ 625.00	No		
New bar stools x100	\$ 10,000.00	No		
Activity/Event Promo Fund	\$ 1,500.00	Yes	\$	1,500.00
		Total:	\$	4,800.00

Outlaws is on a succussful corner location right in Downtown Ferndale. The owner of the business was very pro-active during the Covid shut-downs and made many improvements already. She is looking to improve exterior space to appeal to a more and different clientele than she currently has. She would like to remove and replace the side street landscaping for plants that are easy to maintain and don't catch so much trash that blows by. She would like to add improved ashtrays away from the entrance to encourage patrons and passers-by to utilize them. A new memorial bench would honor a long time customer who passed away and give people a place to sit but not to lay down. She has some great event ideas that will bring in a more diversified crowd. All of these ideas will help the overall appearance of this corner while hopefully bringing some new people in.

Update as of 3-8-23

The owner has completed the landscaping along the side of the building which is an immediate improvement. She ordered the FDA bench which is in and waiting for install. She ordered and is utilizing 2 new ashtrays and held a successful event for Galentine's Day.

Riverside Bar and Grill

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
Frontage improvements including awning and façade	\$ 10,000.00	Yes	\$ 10,000.00
Parking in back	\$ 9,000.00	No	
Entertainment	\$ 6,000.00	No	
Lighting	\$ 1,000.00	No	
		Total:	\$ 10,000.00

Riverside is a relatively new business to Ferndale and is still trying to find its place. We approved a collaborative amount of funds to go towards the replacement of the awning shared with The Curry House. It should make a difference in the overall appeal of this section of town. They would like it to match the look of newer, neighboring awnings. A nice, clean street presence encourages people to come Downtown.

Update as of 3-3-23

The business has closed and will reopen under new ownership and different name. Because of this, they are not eligible for the funds as an existing business and will return them to the FDA for the existing grant fund.

Yeah Baby Boards

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items	
Window w/ Open-Air Seating	\$ 15,000.00	Yes	\$ 1	15,000.00
Resurface Building: Paint/trim	\$ 15,000.00	Yes	\$ 1	15,000.00
New Sign & Lighting	\$ 20,000.00	Yes	\$ 2	20,000.00
		Total:	\$ 5	50,000.00
				·

This project is for a new storefront in Downtown Ferndale that has already made an impact on the look of Main Street. The owner has been steadily building and adapting the storefront and business model to work with what customers are asking for. We granted the funds for this project as the plans indicate it will be an upscale project designed to upgrade not just this storefront but the other 2 storefronts who share the same main enterance. The business is already set up for small seating. Opening the storefront window will not just add more seating but show those driving by that there are people hanging out enjoying their time in Downtown. It will be great if surrounding businesses see this success and choose to upgrade their facades as well. Nobody wants to be the ugly storefront. We all believe this business will continue to grow and offer things that aren't found in Ferndale right now.

Prospective Business

Anytime Toffee and Gifts

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
Exterior Paint	\$ 8,000.00	Yes	\$ 8,000.00
Interior finishes including:	\$ 23,000.00	Yes	\$ 23,000.00
Interior Walls and Paint			
Interior doorway opening			
Floors			
Windows - Exterior			
Lighting/Electrical/Ducting			
New Exterior Door		No	
Replace old door opening	\$ 2,500.00	Yes	\$ 2,500.00
Awnings and Signage	\$ 11,000.00	Yes	\$ 11,000.00
		Total:	\$ 44,500.00

Anytime Toffee is a small local candy manufacturer currently working out of a space connected to the proposed new location. They are looking to expand their manufacturing into the current space and open up the large corner space as a gift store for their products as well as many other local artisans. They are looking forward to perhaps offering coffee and light drinks sometime in the future should that be possible. They have already opened up the windows to show the inside and and looking to brighten up the exterior of the building as well. This is a Ferndale made product that is already very popular. Downtown is lacking in shopping opportunities and this great corner location will definitely be enhanced the the new business coming in.

Update: 3-3-23

Tara responded they have utilzed most of the funds but are still working through some issues with the city regarding awnings.

District Brewing

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
City Fees	\$ 80,000.00		
Construction costs	\$ 150,000.00		
Signage	\$ 15,000.00		
Cooler	\$ 40,000.00		
Decore/furniture	\$ 40,000.00		
Flooring	\$ 30,000.00	yes	\$ 30,000.00
Electrical	\$ 30,000.00	yes	\$ 20,000.00
Painting	\$ 20,000.00		
		Total:	\$ 50,000.00

District Brewing is an exciting and new concept to bring into Downtown. It is one of the first buildings you see coming over the bridge and the proposed plans will make this quite a statement. They plan to open to all ages during both the day and evening and will have games, seating, outdoor seating both in front and in back. They will allow outside food to be brought in whether they end up offering their own or not. The owner has a well established business in Skagit County and will hopefully draw a broad demographic of people here. There are few places for larger groups, such as ball teams, to meet anywhere in the county and so this could become a destination for people from all over Whatcom County.

District Brewing has successfully completed all of their projects.

Curry House

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
Frontage inprovements including	\$ 40,000.00	yes	\$ 40,000.00
façade, awning and sign			
Back parking pick up	\$ 9,000.00	no	
New furniture	\$ 7,000.00	no	
		Total:	\$ 40,000.00

Curry House was a very popular restaurant that sold to another party whereafter the quality and service went downhill and it closed. The original owners are planning on re-opening with their original recipes and an easier to staff service model. They want to improve the façade of the building, including the Riverside Bar and Grill by repairing or replacing the awning along the length in addition to a much needed new sign. This business as well as Main Street will be greatly improved with a facelift for these businesses. The owners are very involved, put their own time and money in, and are looking forward to bringing back a Ferndale favorite.

Update as of 3-6-23

The owners were out of the country for a period of time recently. They have since returned and are researching options for work on the front and signage.

Al's Downtown Diner

Project Items and/or Description	Estimated Cost	Approve (Yes/No)	Approved Grant Items
Interior finishing including:	\$ 37,500.00	Yes	\$ 37,500.00
Flooring			
Electrical			
Walls including drywall			
Insulation			
Plumbing			
New front door	\$ 2,500.00	Yes	\$ 2,500.00
Tables and chairs	\$ 7,000.00	Yes	\$ 7,000.00
Permit fees	\$ 3,000.00	Yes	\$ 3,000.00
		Total:	\$ 50,000.00

Al's Downtown Diner is a newer location and has quickly become a favorite destination place for breakfast in Downtown. They are frequently full and need to turn people away. Their current location is right next door to a beautiful building that has sat vacant and abandoned for years by the choice of the owner. Al was able to convince him to lease the space so he can build upon and expand the restaurant. This will be an immediate and definitive upgrade to what is an absolutely beautiful building. The renewed use of a previously empty space is a gift to Ferndale.

Update as of 3-5-23

The owner has not signed a contract agreeing to accept the funds yet. The cost of their project could be substantial and they are doing the necessary research to see if they could take the project to completion with the likelyhood it will cost more than the \$50,000 grant. Unfortunatly they have had some issues at the restaurant in the passing of a major staff member. This is coupled with Cedars temporary closure which leaves Al's as the only place open for breakfast in Ferndale. He asked if we could get back together to catch up once Cedars reopens which is what we will do.