



Dear Property Owner:

We all know that first impressions are important. The exterior of buildings, both historic and more modern, in Shakopee's Downtown and First Avenue play a significant role in creating the first impression many visitors get when they arrive in Shakopee, as well as the impressions of prospective customers who approach your building and business.

The City of Shakopee would like to partner with you and other businesses and property owners in the Downtown and First Avenue corridor to invest in projects that restore and enhance the exterior facades of commercial buildings in these areas. Toward this end, the City has dedicated additional funds to its Façade Improvement Loan Program, and expanded it to include the First Avenue and the Downtown areas. This program provides deferred loans to cover up to 50 percent of the costs of eligible improvements, up to a maximum of \$25,000.00 per property.

Under the terms of the program, if the property is retained by its current owner for a period of five years, the loan is then completely forgiven. In the event that the building is sold before five years from the date of the loan, the owner would be required to repay a prorated share of the loan, depending on how many years had passed.

Enclosed you will find a brochure with additional information about the loan program, as well as an application form. Please review the information, and see if the Façade Improvement Program could help you with a project you have been considering.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss how this program might be of assistance to you, please feel free to contact me at (952) 233-9346 or **[mleek@ci.shakopee.mn.us](mailto:mleek@ci.shakopee.mn.us)**.

Sincerely,

R. Michael Leek  
Community Development Director