

2018 Annual Report

Township of Warwick Community Improvement Plan (CIP)



The Township of Warwick's Community Improvement Plan (CIP) provides a framework for encouraging redevelopment and reinvestment within the Township of Warwick through the implementation of financial incentives in the Township of Warwick. In 2018 the Township of Warwick CIP was updated to expand the financial incentives available in the Township of Warwick. The updated Township of Warwick CIP Plan includes the following incentives:

- Façade Improvement Grant Program (existing);
- Signage Improvement Grant Program (existing);
- Brownfield Environmental Study Grant Program (existing);
- Structural Improvement Grant (new 2018);
- Tax Increment-Equivalent Grant Program (new 2018);
- Permit Fee Grant Program (new 2018); and
- Building Accessibility Grant (new 2018).

Township of Warwick CIP 2018 updates

Building Accessibility Grant:

- The Building Accessibility Grant promotes improvements to buildings which result in the removal of physical barriers and greater accessibility to persons with disabilities. This may include improvements to or installation of new accessibility ramps, the addition of stairs and railings, automatic doors and widened entrances.
- Promotes accessibility renovations of existing structures designated within the Township of Warwick community improvement façade target areas.
- The maximum amount of the grant is \$5,000.00 or 50% of the eligible costs, whichever is less.

Permit Fee Grant:

- The Permit Fee Grant Program offers grants to eligible applicants for certain building permit fees related to the development or redevelopment, construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation, and/or the improvement of energy efficiency of buildings or properties within the designated Community Improvement Project Area.
- Only structures designated within the Commercial and/or Industrial zones as per the Township of Warwick Zoning by-law are eligible for the Permit Fee Grant Program.
- Eligible community improvement projects under this program will include the large scale development or redevelopment, construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation.
- Building permit fee grants may be made available for Building Permit fees and/or Demolition Permit fees to a maximum of \$5,000.

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Tax-Increment Equivalent Grant:

- The Tax Increment-Equivalent Grant Program offers grants to eligible applicants whose Municipal property tax has increased as a result of the development or redevelopment, construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation, and/or the improvement of energy efficiency of buildings or properties within the designated Community Improvement Project Area.
- The program will encourage large scale property and building investment by effectively deferring the full increase in taxation associated with the reassessment through grants that are equivalent to a portion of the resulting property tax increase.

Structural Grant:

- The purpose of the Structural Grant Program is to offer incentives to landowners, businesses and developers that propose significant large scale projects on commercial or industrial projects that substantially renovate, restore, improve and update a prominent building or structure and accomplish more than one of the following:
 - Address structural and life safety issues to create usable and efficient floor space
 - Improve property standards or preserve architectural significance
 - Remediate a brownfield site, or improve the environment by planting trees, protecting habitat, or other methods to enhance the natural ecosystems
 - Preserve or enhance employment opportunities.
- At minimum registered owner(s) or authorized applicants must at minimum match the Township's contribution to any incentive with preference given to projects that leverage more than 50% contribution.
- Grant assistance is provided in the form of an up to 50% matching grant, which is paid upon completion of the previously approved work.

CIP Committee

The CIP Committee is made up of 5 local volunteers who are charged with the task of meeting to review relevant applications and policies as they relate to the Township of Warwick CIP and Mural Guidelines. Table 1.1 summarizes the number of CIP Committee meetings that have taken place over the last few years.

Table 1.1: CIP Committee Meetings

Year	Number of Meetings
2011	3
2012	4
2013	5
2014	3
2015	3
2016	1
2017	2
2018	1

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In addition to the one (1) formal CIP Committee meeting held in 2018, committee members have made extensive efforts to continuously promote the CIP, and its incentives, in the local community through participation in community events.

Applications and Expenditures

In 2018 the CIP committee funded \$0 dollars for Township of Warwick CIP grants.

2019 CIP Committee Projects

The CIP committee will continue to work on the following revitalization initiatives in 2019:

- Implement the CIP programs
- Bluebird square park design and clock relocation
- Community group signage
- Review potential mural locations- Warwick Village Mural
- Continue to promote and provide grants for revitalization initiatives