Hillsboro Main Street Enhancement Initiative

Project Approach:

- The Main Street Enhancement Initiative is a pilot program of Metro's Development Center in partnership with the City of Hillsboro. Hillsboro is one of two cities selected for 2012.
- The program goal is to provide an infusion of revitalization resources and technical support to help jump-start investments and improved economic performance downtown
- This is a pilot project. This is the ONLY year we will have Metro participation.
- Cities receiving these challenge grants commit to match Metro grant funds for the initiative with local resources
- A total of $240,000 of combined Metro and City funds are available through June of 2013
- Businesses and property owners will be required to also invest private dollars in projects. Match must be at least one-half of the total cost of improvements, including design.
- Professionals with demonstrated expertise will be enlisted to provide training and to advise businesses and property owners regarding all proposed improvements and projects
- In order to target funds for maximum collective impact, the majority of investments will be made in projects on Main Street between 2nd and 4th Avenues.
- Private property and business owners will be required to match public funds with $1 for every $1 of grant funds awarded; maximum of $40,000 will be awarded

Project Goal:

- Invest Metro and City funds strategically by prioritizing and funding projects that are most likely to have a dramatic positive impact on the downtown environment as a whole
- Demonstrate best practices for revitalization of downtown properties and businesses through high-quality projects that protect and enhance local assets and historic resources
- Align public sector policies, tools and incentives to continue to support and attract future private investment

Application Process:

- Submit letter of interest:
    - The City of Hillsboro is accepting letters of interest through July 15th for a first round of projects to be funded.
    - Letters should be directed to Karla Antonini, Economic Development Department, email karlaa@ci.hillsboro.or.us 503-681-6181
    - Projects will be funded on a first come first serve basis. Depending on applications received, all funding may be awarded during the first round.
    - Letter should include business/property owner name and the extent of the improvements
    - Upon receipt of letter, the City and Metro will meet with each applicant to review and discuss the proposed improvements and level of funding requested.