

March 26, 2010

Dear Property Owner:

The Village of Holley is interested in applying for a New York State Main Street (NYMS) grant through the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation to help local businesses and property owners make improvements to the interior and exterior of their buildings. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the program and gauge interest.

What is the purpose of the program?

The purpose of the NYMS program is to stimulate reinvestment in properties located within mixed-use commercial districts located in small towns of New York State. The NYMS program provides resources for the purpose of assisting New York communities with their downtown revitalization efforts. NYMS provides funds to stimulate reinvestment in mixed-use (commercial-civic-residential) "main street" buildings or neighborhoods in order to:

- Stimulate the economic revitalization of mixed-use business centers in small-town areas;
- Foster small business development;
- Expand affordable housing opportunities in mixed-use districts; and,
- Address issues of code enforcement, energy efficiency, Americans with Disabilities Act, and fair housing.

Who is eligible?

Property owners in the downtown commercial district targeted for improvement in the grant application.

What grants are available to property owners through this program?

Building Renovation Grants – Grants that are made available for the preservation and improvement of buildings in a mixed-use setting can be used as follows:

- The project may provide participating owners with matching renovation grants of up to \$50,000/building for first and/or second floor civic/commercial use, plus an additional \$25,000 for each residential unit, not to exceed 75% of Total Project Cost or \$150,000/building, whichever is less. Building renovation grants may be for facade renovations or interior work. All work must comply with the standards of the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, for properties eligible for the historic register, and with local design guidelines. If the facade does not meet design standards as noted above, a facade renovation may be required.

What are matching funds for this project?

The building owner must provide **at minimum** 25% of the cost of work to be done on their building. For example, if you have \$20,000 worth of improvements you'd like to undertake on your building, the grant would provide \$15,000 and you would provide \$5,000. You may use **small business loans, cash, tax credits, the equity of a property, and other grants** to meet this requirement.

Whom do I contact for further information?

If you are business owner and are interested in participating in the program, please contact the Village of Holley at (585) 638-6367. Contacting the Village in no way obligates you to participate in the future, but will help us gauge interest. If there is sufficient interest in the program, the Village will hold an informational meeting that will provide a more thorough description of the New York Main Street Program requirements. We hope to hear from you soon.

Very truly yours,

John W. Kenney, Jr.
Mayor