# **Business Is Booming**

The city of Aurora is booming and has much to offer local businesses. In the fourth quarter of 2014, Aurora saw a 6.4 percent jump in retail trade sales over the previous year, and with the Aurora Line light rail set to open in 2016, the city is on track to continue this upward trend.





The Commercial Renovation Program is a local redevelopment loan/grant program designed to encourage business initiatives that benefit the Original Aurora area, which borders Lowry and Stapleton – areas that are all experiencing massive growth. The program assists in the overall physical improvement and commercial revitalization of Northwest Aurora. Boundaries for the program area are East Sixth Avenue on the south, East 25th Avenue on the north, Yosemite Street on the west, and Peoria Street on the east.

Community Development 9898 E. Colfax Ave. Aurora, CO 80010



Commercial Renovation **Program** 

### Goals of the Program

- Stimulate economic development in Original Aurora
- Increase the employment base of the area
- Enhance the visual appeal of the area
- Reduce energy use by replacing storefronts with modern windows, doors and insulation

The federally funded Commercial Renovation Program provides loans and grants to business and/or property owners who are interested in updating the exterior of their buildings. Funds are provided as follows:

#### Funds

Up to \$30,000 grant for architectural fees

50%

10-year forgivable loan

50%

10-year, 0% interest installment loan

Costs

Federal funding per project shall not exceed \$200,000\*

\* Projects exceeding \$200,000 will be considered on a case-by-case basis

## **Eligible Improvements**

Eligible improvements include but are not limited to:

- Facade renovation
- Safety/security glass installation
- Awning installation
- Exterior paint/stucco
- Roofing
- Landscaping
- Parking lot improvements
- Signage (Cannot be a stand-alone project)



### Ineligible Improvements

Ineligible improvements include but are not limited to:

- Rooftop HVAC units
- Deferred maintenance
- Construction of additional square footage

#### Eligible Applicants

Applicants for the program must own a business or commercial property located in the program target area. We will give priority in the Commercial Renovation Program to the following:

- Projects that recruit new and/or retain high-priority business
- Projects where the business/ property owners are committed to making substantial improvement to their properties
- Projects that improve safety and health conditions and/or code violations
- Project sites identified as key in Market Analysis and/or high visibility locations

Learn more about the Commercial Renovation Program: 303.739.7900

Not sure what your business front can look like? At no cost to you, we will have your store front redesigned to show you the potential after renovation.

