

See what Gothenburg has to offer

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
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ANDERSON

Anderson: More attractive buildings invite people downtown.

More than a million dollars has been invested in downtown Gothenburg.

Anne Anderson, Community Development Office director, said 31 businesses collectively spent \$764,700 of their own funds to qualify for \$236,098 in matching funds to fix up their facades, buy and install energy-saving improvements or make their businesses more handicapped accessible.

“Anytime you make buildings more attractive, you’re going to invite people into the downtown,” Anderson said. “And, if it’s more inviting, more people are apt to take a look and see what the downtown has to offer.”

Gothenburg, along with Sidney, Wayne, Nebraska City and Cozad, initially received \$28,200 in 2008 in a pilot program to plan how to revitalize their downtowns.

Then, with input in hand from downtown business owners on how to spend revitalization funds, the city received \$250,000 in 2009.

Businesses applied for matching grant money for facade, awning improvement, historic preservation, energy efficiency or accessibility.

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REVITALIZATION PARTICIPANTS		
Recipient	Energy	Facade
Bar W Lounge		\$1,387
Dale Horse Antiques		\$5,547
Tim Strauss		\$6,147
First Presbyterian Church	\$5,000	\$7,500
Gothenburg Realty Inc		\$7,500
Peterson's Supermarket	\$5,000	\$5,813
The Home Agency	\$2,324	\$7,500
First State Insurance	\$708	
Sander Furniture & Gifts		\$7,500
Schlake Construction		\$7,500
Pony Express Dental Arts	\$3,332	
Platte Valley Scientific		\$7,500
Five Star Flooring		\$6,139
Nan's Headhunter		\$3,056
Do It All Drywall and Decks		\$3,750
Francen Inc		\$3,840
Dee's Floral & Gifts		\$4,867
Jim & Sally Jochem		\$4,516
Lake Aremok Eyecare	\$1,796	
Gothenburg Times	\$370	
Faith Chapel		\$7,500
Staine Peterson		\$7,500
Gothenburg State Bank	\$5,000	
Gothenburg State Bank		\$7,500
Hometown Furniture Plus		\$5,550
Rural Fire District	\$1,000	
Brand Electric & Grain Equipment		\$7,500
Gothenburg Irrigation		\$7,500
Dick Nelson		\$6,000
Dick Nelson		\$7,020
James Greff		\$1,522
Total	\$26,242	\$190,356

Other participants: The City of Gothenburg received a \$5,000 accessibility grant. Jim and Peony Dadds, owners of Hometown Furniture Plus, received a \$49,500 loan and Gothenburg State Bank received a \$5,000 accessibility grant. Dawson Area Development will receive \$13,000 for loan administration.

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