

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 18, 2022

'City continues three grant programs for property owners in 2022'

DUNCAN – The City's Enhanced Security Initiative, Graffiti Removal Program, and City-Wide Façade Improvement Program have been extended for another year. These programs were started as pilot programs in 2021 to assist commercial and residential property owners and will continue until the end of 2022.

The Enhanced Security Initiative Program (ESIP) assists commercial property owners who wish to implement measures to enhance the security of their buildings and surrounding properties. The City will provide a one-time grant up to 50% of the cost of eligible security improvements to a maximum of \$1,000 per commercial property. The ESIP is a matching grant opportunity with a 50% reimbursement up to a maximum of \$1,000 for security enhancements. City Council has allocated \$10,000 for this program in 2022.

The Graffiti Removal Program assists property owners, both residential and commercial, whose property has been tagged with graffiti. Property owners may pick up a voucher at City Hall for one free can of paint and a brush (or other products to assist at removing graffiti up to \$60 value), along with instructions for redeeming the voucher at participating Duncan paint stores. City Council has allocated \$1,880 for this program in 2022.

The City-Wide Façade Improvement Program (FIP) promotes business revitalization City Council has allocated by encouraging building owners to invest in storefront upgrades to enhance the appearance of our streetscapes. The City will provide a grant up to 50% of the cost of eligible beautification improvements to a maximum of \$1,000 per application, per project, per year. Applicants will be assessed and approved on a first come-first serve basis. This program is available to buildings outside of the Downtown Duncan Business Improvement Area, which has a similar program for their membership. City Council has allocated \$10,000 for this program in 2022.

For more information on these programs, please visit the City's website:

Graffiti Removal Program: <u>https://duncan.ca/graffiti-removal-program/</u> Enhanced Security Initiative: <u>https://duncan.ca/enhanced-security-initiative-program-esip/</u> City-Wide Façade Improvement Program: <u>https://duncan.ca/city-wide-facade-improvement-program/</u>

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