

Investment in Local Businesses

The Town of Parker is committed to our business community and the economic vitality and sustainability that they provide. Parker recognizes the value of providing economic assistance to existing, relocating or expanding companies to help them thrive and grow, and offers a variety of economic development assistance tools for businesses in Parker. The programs offered are:

- Tax and Fee Assistance Program (TAP)
- Small Business Scholarship Program
- Parker Improvement Program (PIP)

A general overview of each program is provided in this brochure. The owner or operator of a business in the Town of Parker may be eligible for Town assistance programs as defined in the specific program.

For additional information, please contact Economic Development Director John Hall at 303.841.0353 or jhall@parkeronline.org or Associate Planner Mary Munekata at 303.841.2332 or mmunekata@parkeronline.org.

Tax and Fee Assistance Program (TAP)

The purpose of the TAP is to encourage the recruitment, retention, establishment or expansion of businesses and employers within the Town through a sales tax and/or fee share back as may be provided for in the TAP Ordinance (8.27).

Approval for inclusion in the TAP requires a 2/3 majority vote of Town Council.

Approved uses of TAP funds are limited to obligations and/or improvements which are public or public-related in nature, and which are specifically identified as eligible for TAP funding as part of the TAP Agreement.

Small Business Scholarship Program

As part of the Town's commitment to small businesses and entrepreneurs, Parker provides a Small Business Scholarship Program. This program allows reimbursement of business training and education expenses to small and home-based business owners/employers with 25 or fewer employees. To qualify, businesses must be licensed through the Town of Parker and located within the Parker town limits.

If approved, businesses may be reimbursed 50 percent of the cost of tuition and materials, up to \$500 per business per calendar year, after successful completion of the courses. All courses that reasonably benefit the business are eligible.

This program is designed to allow for flexibility in choosing the type of training that enhances each business. Applicants may choose courses from any accredited institution or generally accepted programs.

Parker Improvement Program (PIP)

The Parker Improvement Program (PIP) is a reimbursement program in which the Town provides matching funds up to \$5,000 per business for eligible property owners and tenants to upgrade storefronts and building facades in order to help create a positive commercial environment in Parker. Improving and upgrading building facades in Parker, especially along the Parker Road corridor is one of the important goals of this plan. The PIP seeks to bring new life to existing buildings, which do not conform to current standards or are in need of a "facelift." By assisting property owners to upgrade the appearance of their buildings, the aesthetic environment of Parker is enhanced, thus improving the economic vitality for all businesses and the Town as a whole.

Types of eligible improvements include: painting of certain façade area; exterior material replacements; awnings; marquees; parapet walls; addition of architectural details; doors; windows; arcade/canopy façade; decorative exterior lighting; landscaping; replacement and enhancement of sidewalks; replacement of deteriorated or non-conforming existing freestanding monument signs; other façade improvements approved by the Town; rooftop mechanical screening; roof (only if visible) and parking lot lights.

Other Resources

A variety of other business assistance resources are available including:

Parker Authority for Reinvestment (PAR)

PAR is an urban renewal authority established in 2006 by the Parker Town Council to foster development and redevelopment. The Authority can partner with the private sector to incent development and redevelopment by utilizing a variety of tools including Tax Increment Financing (TIF). Visit www.paronline.org or contact the Authority at 303.841.2332 for more information.

Douglas County

Douglas County provides a variety of economic assistance programs. Visit www.businessdouglascounty.com or call 303.660.7449 for more information.

Colorado State Assistance

The Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) offers programs and services tailored to support and assist business development at every level. Contact OEDIT at 303.892.3840 or go online to www.advancecolorado.com

Parker Economic Assistance Programs

A guide to Town Assistance Programs offered for Parker Businesses.

