

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Chehalis Community Renaissance Team Offers Grants for Improving Downtown Building Facades**

Chehalis, WA – The Chehalis Community Renaissance Team (CCRT) has announced a \$10,000 pilot façade improvement grant program to provide matching grant funds for the enhancement of Downtown Chehalis. The grant program aims to leverage CCRT’s investment in the beautification efforts downtown, stimulate private investment, and enhance the pedestrian environment.

The grants are intended to help downtown businesses and property owners improve the fronts of their buildings. The grants provide a 50 percent match, up to \$2,500 per business or property, for approved improvement costs. Applications will be accepted for as long as funding is available through December 31, 2017. Grant awards will be first-come, first-served and based on available funding. Work done prior to the grant award is not eligible for grant funding. Applications will be reviewed and awarded by the Chehalis Community Renaissance Team. Grants could be awarded as early as June 23.

The vision of the program is to increase the vitality of Downtown Chehalis by adding fresh paint, updated awnings, windows and signage. The grant program is designed as a pilot program to demonstrate that strategic and focused efforts in a concentrated area with a relatively small financial commitment can noticeably improve the pedestrian environment.

“This is one step in a process of downtown improvements bringing developers and new businesses to our downtown. Attracting consumers and building employment and business density is essential to the success of Downtown Chehalis,” said Annalee Tobey, CCRT executive director.

Complete program requirements, guidelines and application are available on the City of Chehalis website, [www.ci.chehalis.wa.us/renaissance](http://www.ci.chehalis.wa.us/renaissance). Please direct questions to Annalee Tobey, CCRT executive director at [info@experiencechehalis.com](mailto:info@experiencechehalis.com).

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*The Chehalis Community Renaissance Team accomplishes projects and activities to make the Chehalis area a more attractive place in which to live and raise a family; to enhance job opportunities and the involvement of youth, so more high school and college graduates choose to live in the area; to increase tourism to support local retailers, hotels and restaurants; and to increase retail business to enhance local shopping.*