



MOUNT PLEASANT MAIN STREET, INC

Washington, DC 20010

ANC1D Micro-Grant Program Grant Application

Dear Grant Manager,

Mount Pleasant Main Street (MPMS) wishes to apply for ANC1D micro-grants to be used for streetscape maintenance and enhancements that would benefit local business and residents and make the commercial strip more attractive for shoppers and new business prospects. Specifically, MPMS requests bridge funds to support a *Mount Pleasant Commercial Corridor Sidewalk & Storefront Cleaning Project*.

MPMS is conducting a sidewalk cleaning program to remove abundant amounts of gum, tar and dirt that derogate the streetscape and esthetic look and feel of our commercial corridor and negatively impact neighborhood perception and business development. The sidewalks may never have been cleaned properly and maintenance is long overdue. An effort was conducted with the MtP Business Association in the summer of 2008 to clean Lamont Park with a high pressure hose with one worker but the effort was too difficult and time consuming. In addition, the high pressure hose can damage mortar between bricks. It was determined by MPMS and MPBA that a professional firm with industrial strength equipment would be required to conduct heavy duty cleaning to remove 75% of the sidewalk spots with less costly spot maintenance performed ad hoc or street-wide once per year. MPMS plans to engage a local Green Team (DC program which provides the homeless and underserved with jobs) to rent the units from Gum Busters in the future to perform local maintenance.

MPMS met recently with a local contracting firm called Gum Busters (see attached) referred by the DC Golden Triangle BID. Gum Busters (www.gumbustersdc.com) uses stain removal machines with vacuums and warm water sprayers much like the systems used to clean carpets found in local supermarkets. The system is eco-friendly (green): it uses low-noise emitting power generators and non-intrusive detergents that are safe to residents, animals and plant life. The process is also low impact to bricks and surface mortar.

An initial walk-through of the commercial corridor and Lamont Park was conducted where 60% of the commercial corridor was tagged as Phase I yielding a cost estimate of \$4740. The estimated cost per storefront was estimated at an average of between \$200 and \$300 depending on condition. MPMS plans to tackle the project one block at a time and on specific storefront spots in the worse condition. It is requesting ANC1D micro-grants between \$200 and \$300 as bridge funds for this effort which would be applied to fund specific business storefronts. MPMS will cover the difference as needed pending fund raising and grant disbursements and plans to conduct phase II covering the remaining blocks of the corridor in early spring 2009.

MPMS would like to apply for as many of the \$200 grants as permissible which would allow it to complete the project in faster timeframe. Thus far, application forms have been signed for the following 6 business owners between Park and Lamont Streets. If possible with more time MPMS/MPBA can gain additional signatures.

- Marleny's
- Heller's Bakey
- Marx Café
- Leon Shoe Repair
- Sportsman Liquors

- Samber Market

About Mount Pleasant Main Street

Mount Pleasant Main Street located at 3213 Mount Pleasant Street, was founded in 1991 and is a DC registered 501c3 non-profit organization. It was created by local business owners in Mount Pleasant to restore peace and promote economic development. The organization plays a critical role in neighborhood business development, streetscape enhancement and community building.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Mount Pleasant Main Street

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