

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** William T. Lichter, Village Manager

**FROM:** David A. Hulseberg, AICP, Director of Community Development

**DATE:** May 18, 2006

**SUBJECT: Downtown Improvement & Renovation Grant; 14 W. St. Charles Road**

The Village has received a request for a grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 for exterior improvements relative to the property mentioned above.

### **BACKGROUND**

The purpose of the Downtown Improvement and Renovation Grant Program is to increase the economic viability of Downtown Lombard by improving the aesthetics of the buildings, improving signage, and increasing the availability and ease of parking. This Program, approved in July, 1998, is intended to support the Village's plans to maintain a quality downtown.

Approved applications for the Downtown Improvement and Renovation Grant Program are eligible to receive a fifty percent (50%) matching grant. Grants up to \$10,000 are approved administratively by the Director of Community Development. All grants above \$10,000 must be approved by the Village Board. The maximum grant amount is \$50,000. Requests for grants above \$50,000 will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

### **PROPOSAL**

Edward A. O'Neill submitted an application to the Economic and Community Development Committee which was reviewed at its May 2, 2006 meeting. The applicant proposes to restore the front and sides of the building while reflecting the historic architecture of downtown Lombard. The estimated cost of the exterior improvements is in excess of \$100,000. The Economic & Community Development Committee recommended approval of a grant in the amount of \$50,000.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Village Board approve an ordinance authorizing a Downtown Facade Improvement Grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the property located at 14 W. St. Charles Road pursuant to Village Ordinance 4509, subject to the applicant obtaining a liquor license.