

## Business Security Improvements Grant Program

Economic & Community Development Department  
1600 Truxtun Ave 3rd Floor, Bakersfield, CA 93301  
661-326-3765 | edcd@bakersfieldcity.us



**BAKERSFIELD**

THE SOUND OF *Something Better*

## Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is the Business Security Improvements Grant Program?**

The City of Bakersfield's Business Security Improvements Grants Program supports security improvements to assist small businesses and non-profits located within the focus area in the City of Bakersfield.

- **When is the deadline to apply?**

The program ends when funds are completely expended.

- **How much can I receive?**

The program offers grants up to \$5,000 or \$25,000. Each business site with qualified proposed improvements can receive one of each type of grant.

- **Who/What is Eligible for Grant funding?**

To be eligible for a grant:

- Your business must be within the focus area in the City of Bakersfield (Page 4).
- You must have a current business license with the City of Bakersfield.
- Must not have any delinquent bills or outstanding liens issued by the City.
- The business must have no more than 500 employees.

- **Are funds guaranteed?**

Funds cannot be guaranteed or set aside. Applications are considered on a first come, first serve basis and funds are limited. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Refer to program guidelines and application for more information. Check your email correspondence for notification from City staff on the status of your application.

- **Is funding up front?**

This program is on a reimbursement basis following an approved application or agreement. Applications and agreements are subject to approval by the ECD Director.

- **Do I need to pay back funds?**

Only if found to be in violation of program guidelines. To avoid payback of funds, no grant funds are distributed until all proof of agreement compliance is submitted. If the applicant fully complies with program requirements, funds do not need to be repaid.

- **Do I need estimates with my application?**

Yes, an application is not complete without estimates. Refer to program guidelines and application for more information.

- **Can I apply during or after I am completing a project?**

No, work cannot be started or completed before a complete application or agreement is approved by the ECD Director.

- **Can I apply for previous window repair costs (or other previous costs)?**

You can apply for window repair costs for damage and repairs for reported crimes that occurred after January 1, 2024. A police report must be filed. City staff will be confirming if building permits are required for the work. Grants will not be given for unpermitted projects when required.

- **When do I need a permit from the Public Works Department?**

Certain lighting or security camera improvements could fall into this category: Building or placing anything which intrudes into, upon, over, or under any street, alley, sidewalk or public way, now open or dedicated or will be dedicated for public use or property belonging to the City may require an [Encroachment Permit](#) from Public Works Department.

- **When do I need a permit from the Development Services Department?**

A building permit is required for any construction which physically changes or adds structures to your property or for work regulated by local Codes or Ordinances:

<https://www.bakersfieldcity.us/187/Building-Information-Guides>

Online Building Permit Application

<https://bakeweb.ci.bakersfield.ca.us/Click2GovBP/index.html>

- **Do contractors need to be licensed?**

Based on the type of work performed, contractors must have a valid California Contractor's license. In addition, contractors must possess a City Business License.

- **How do I request a copy of my police report?**

Here is the link to request your police report; you can request by phone, online, in person, or by mail: <https://www.bakersfieldcity.us/464/Records>

The Bakersfield Police Department is located at 1601 Truxtun Avenue.

- **Can the City pay my contractor directly?**

No, the City is not party to any agreement between the applicant and the contractor. The City is only party to an agreement with the applicant; therefore, any approved application and/or reimbursement will be sent to the applicant.

- **Can I apply on behalf of someone else?**

Applicants must be either the business owner (tenant) or property owner. Applying as a business owner/tenant requires permission of the property owner for the proposed improvements.

- **I am the property owner; can I submit an application for my tenant?**

Yes, you can submit an application as a property owner. If approved, you would be responsible for payments and receive reimbursements, etc., rather than the tenant. Your tenant would still need to have a City Business License.

- **How long will it take for my application to be reviewed for approval?**

City Staff will review your application and notify you of a decision within 20 days of submission of a **complete** application.

- **How long will it take to receive reimbursement?**

City Staff will review your reimbursement request and compliance with all City codes, ordinances, and required permits. You will receive a check in the mail within 30 days of a **complete and approved** reimbursement request.

- **I am interested in security cameras for my business. Can I install a DVR? Is related electrical work included?**

DVR and other retention devices are an allowable cost; please see program guidelines for more information, capability recommendations, and exclusions. Related electrical work is an allowable cost but must be performed by a contractor licensed by the state to perform such work.

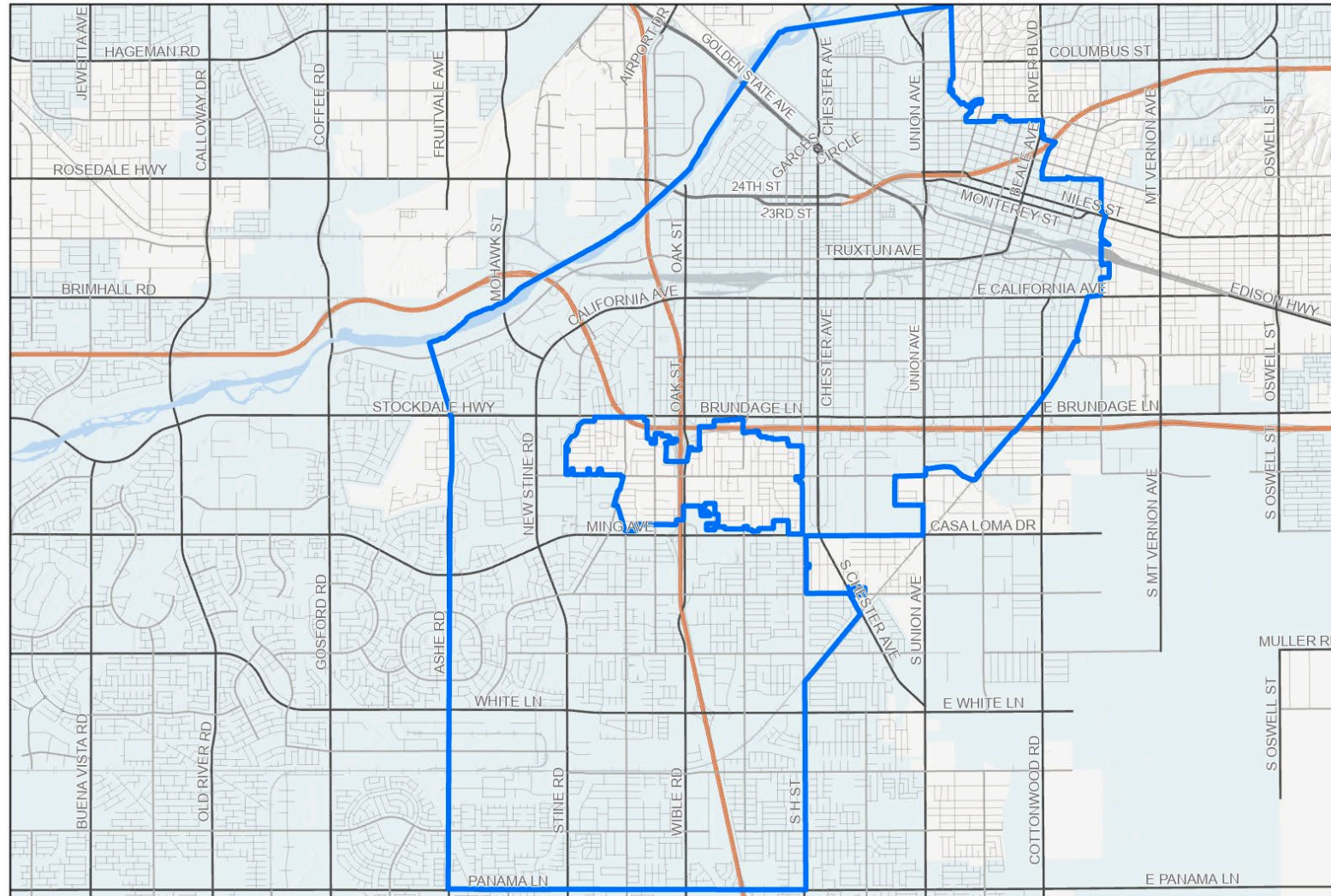
- **I am interested in improvements not listed on the application; can I apply for those types of improvements?**

No. Improvements are limited to only those detailed in the program guidelines.

- **I have more questions. Who can I contact?**

Please contact the Economic and Community Development Department at 661-326-3765 or e-mail [edcd@bakersfieldcity.us](mailto:edcd@bakersfieldcity.us) and we will be happy to assist.

## Security Grant Focus Area



### Business Security Improvement Grant Focus Area

March 2024

Prepared by The City of Bakersfield, CA Geographic Information Services group of the Technology Services Department. The City of Bakersfield makes no warranty, representation, or guarantee regarding the accuracy of this map. This map is intended for display purposes only and does not replace official recorded documents.

 GrantArea  
 City Limits

0 0.5 1 Miles

