



The Missouri Main Street Connection Mission

Is to enhance the social, cultural and environmental well being of historic downtown business districts located in Missouri's diverse cities and towns, through education using the Main Street Four Point Approach® as developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

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PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Gayla Roten, State Director, Missouri Main Street Connection, Inc.

Monett Receives Grant for Revitalization Training

Missouri Main Street Connection Inc. (MMSC) is pleased to announce that Monett has been selected in a competitive application process to participate in a new cost-sharing grant that provides training and technical services to local revitalization programs in Missouri's historic commercial districts.

MMSC staff will conduct an initial consultation with the Monett Main Street Committee in late September to evaluate the existing revitalization efforts and set up a schedule of services customized to address the local revitalization needs.

Monett residents have engaged in preliminary discussions about revitalization through previous visioning sessions, and the revitalization concept is supported by the City and the Chamber of Commerce. Several downtown buildings are vacant and in good condition, ready for new tenants. The revitalization program has opportunities to build upon existing partnerships and the tradition of popular downtown festivals and special events.

The grant from MMSC covers a two-year period. During that time, members of the Monett Main Street Committee will receive on-site training from MMSC that will develop the organization's efficiency necessary to conduct the revitalization effort. Representatives from Monett also will attend regional revitalization workshops and conferences conducted by MMSC. **The goal of the grant is to create a local organization that can develop a self-sustaining revitalization program.**

The grant is a 40/60 match, requiring the community to contribute 40% of the cash value of the services, and MMSC to contribute 60% of the services.

As a result of Monett's successful application, the community is also designated as an Affiliate in the MMSC Tier Structure, which ranks revitalization progress on standards established by the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Main Street Center. The Missouri Main Street Connection oversees the programs in Missouri and is currently working with over 70 communities to conduct sustainable revitalization.

For more information about the MMSC Affiliate grant program, contact Gayla Roten at 417-334-3014; e-mail: info@momainstreet.org, or visit the Missouri Main Street website: www.momainstreet.org

Missouri Main Street Connection

PO Box 1066, Branson Missouri 65615 ☎ 417.334-3014 ✉ glroten@momainstreet.org 🌐 www.momainstreet.org