# Redevelopment Authority (RDA)

of the City of Racine, Wisconsin

## AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORADUM

AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Item # 977-17 White Box Grant Application for 1028 Douglas Avenue.

PREPARED BY: Amy Connolly

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Applicant Scott Monroe, representing Racine Riverside Marine, is applying for a White Box Grant of \$20,000 to renovate the vacant, first floor commercial space at 1028 Douglas Avenue for retail use to create a large loft style showroom to display their new product inventory.

#### **BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:**

The property at 1028 Douglas Avenue is more than 100 years old. This White Box grant application envisions the renovation of 30,000 sq. ft. into a white box space that would be used as retail space.

Proposed renovations include: updating electrical systems, installing fire suppression system, soda blasting of interior walls, wood floor repairs, HVAC systems installations.

- White Box Request: \$20,000
- Square Feet (first floor): 30,000 sq.ft.
- Total Costs: Range between \$78,035.00 \$113,226.00

This item appeared before the Downtown Design Review Committee prior to this meeting.

## **BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

The initial White Box program had a budget of \$100,000. In July, Common Council added \$150,000 to the budget for additional White Box incentives for 2017 and combined the line items for White Box and Façade Grants into one "pot" of money for a total of \$400,000 available in 2017. To date, the RDA has awarded \$111,545 in White Box grants, reaching \$156,925 inclusive of the applications currently being presented to the RDA\*.

Proposed Available Funding Remaining in FV 2017	\$213 075
- Awarded FY 2017 Façade Grants	30,000
- Awarded FY 2017 White Box Grants	\$156,925*
Proposed Total Funding Available in FY 2017	\$400,000
+ Requested additional funding	\$150,000
FY 2017 Façade Grant Program Funding	\$150,000
FY 2017 Budgeted White Box Program Funding	\$100,000

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Staff recommends approval of the White Box application for the requested and eligible amount of \$20,000 contingent on any additional recommendations of the Downtown Area Design Review Committee.