# Redevelopment Authority (RDA)

of the City of Racine, Wisconsin

## AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORADUM

AGENDA DATE:	August 3, 2017
SUBJECT:	Item # 647-17 White Box Grant Application for 3221 Washington Ave.

PREPARED BY: Amy Connolly

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Applicant James Spangenberg, property owner of the building at 3221 Washington Ave. (formerly the Nelson's Dime Store building) is applying for a White Box Grant of \$20,000 to renovate the vacant, first floor commercial space for future occupancy.

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

The property at 3221 Washington is more than 80 years old. This White Box grant application envisions the renovation of 4,903 sq. ft. of space (currently vacant) into a white box space that could be used for either retail or restaurant.

Proposed renovations include: updating electrical systems, creating new restroom, wood floor repairs, HVAC systems demolition and installations, and wall framing and drywall.

- White Box Request: \$20,000Square Feet (first floor): 4,903 s.f.
- Total Costs: Range between \$52,041 and \$35,963

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 \$71,545 in White Box grants, reaching \$91,545 inclusive of this application.

FY 2017 Budgeted White Box Program Funding	\$100,000
FY 2017 Façade Grant Program Funding	\$150,000
+ Requested additional funding	\$150,000
Proposed Total Funding Available in FY 2017	\$400,000
- Awarded FY 2017 White Box Grants	91,545
- Awarded FY 2017 Façade Grants	50,000
Proposed Available Funding Remaining in FY 2017	\$258,455

## **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.