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## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE For more information please contact: Edward E. Spears, Executive Director Main Street Milton, Inc. espears@miltonfl.org



## MAIN STREET MILTON ACHIEVES 2019 NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

Main Street Milton, Inc. has achieved full state and national accreditation. Florida Secretary of State Laurel M. Lee announced on March 22, 2019 that 32 Florida Main Street Programs, including Main Street Milton, have achieved national accreditation from the National Main Street Center for 2019. The accreditation process is conducted each year based on a series of standards set by the National Main Street Center and its coordinating program partners. The designation is a mark of distinction that signifies a local Main Street program's commitment to community revitalization and engagement and rigorous outcome measurement. There are 46 recognized Main Street programs in Florida. Nationally, there are over 40 Coordinating Programs and over 1,200 neighborhoods and communities across the country.

"I am proud to recognize and celebrate the hard work and commitment of Florida's nationally accredited Main Street programs," said Secretary Lee. "Florida's Main Street programs are an essential tool for economic development and historic preservation in downtown districts across the state."

Main Street Milton Executive Director Edward E. Spears said, "another goal met!!! The all-volunteer Board of Directors set the goal and put in the hard work to achieve it. From completely revamped bylaws, to a new strategic plan and reporting process, to the actual work in the community, the Board has set a clear path to success." Main Street Milton's annual evaluation was conducted by state officials on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

"I want to personally thank the City of Milton. Without the unwaivering commitment shown by the Mayor, City Council, City Manager and Main Street Milton staff, we would not be where we are today. This is a perfect example of how a strong partnership between a great city organziation and a well run, focused non-profit can benefit a community," said Cassandra Sharp, Board President. "Our Board keeps moving forward and I appreciate the time and effort they give to the program", she added.

To see the full list of accreditation standards, visit https://bit.ly/2BGuOiO.

For more information on the Florida Main Street program visit floridamainstreet.com or facebook.com/FloridaMainStreet.

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