

Entrepreneurs Invited to Rent Unused Space in Santiago de Cuba



Santiago de Cuba, June 10 (RHC) — The city of Santiago de Cuba is renting unused and dilapidated commercial space in the heart of the historic center of the city to private merchants, the *Sierra Maestra* newspaper reported.

The long-term leases — which apparently factor in the cost of renovations — are part of an urban renewal plan directed by the *Oficina del Conservador in Santiago de Cuba*.

Oficina del Conservador Director Gisela Mayo Gómez said the rent will correspond to the clients' budget and type of business and factor in renovation costs; *cuentapropistas* should be able to recover their investment within two years.

Once applications are approved, the business arm of the *Oficina* will provide the lease; renovations will then begin. Most of the locales available are along the lower end of Calle Enramadas, along Avenida Jesús Menéndez, with a few located elsewhere in the city center.

The *Oficina* will particularly foster community projects such as art galleries.

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