

**OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)

FY 2016 H STREET NE SMALL BUSINESS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Grant Identification No.: DMPED - GHS – 016- 082972

Background Information: The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) invites the submission of applications for the H Street NE Small Business Capital Improvement Grants. Funding for this program is authorized under the "H Street NE Retail Priority Area Incentive Act of 2010," effective April 8, 2011 (D.C. Law 18-354; D.C. Official Code § 1-325.171 et seq.), and as amended by the "H Street NE Retail Priority Area Incentive Amendment Act of 2012," effective September 20, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-168).

Purpose of Grant Program: The purpose of the H Street NE Small Business Reimbursement Grants is to support existing small businesses, attract new businesses, increase the District's tax base, create new job opportunities for District residents, and transform the H Street NE commercial corridor into a thriving and inviting neighborhood center. Grant funds will be utilized to reimburse grantees for capital expenditures to improve their place of business or for the purchase and installation of heavy equipment that will be used onsite at the business location.

The purpose of the Great Streets Retail Small Business Reimbursement Grants is to support existing small businesses, attract new businesses, increase the District's tax base, create new job opportunities for District residents, and transform emerging commercial corridors into thriving and inviting neighborhood centers.

Length of Award: Date of grant execution through August 31, 2016

Award Amount: DMPED will award individual grants of up to a maximum of \$50,000.00 each.

Eligibility Criteria: Eligible applicants for the grant are owners of small retail and service-oriented businesses. The following types of businesses are *ineligible* to receive this grant funding: *adult entertainment, auto body repair, bank, bar, construction/general contracting/architecture/design-build, financial services, home-based business, hotel, liquor store, nightclub, phone store, , professional services, and real estate development/property management/realtor.*

Eligible applicants must meet the following minimum requirements to be considered for the grant:

1. Be located within the H Street- Bladensburg NE corridor. Prospective applicants can verify their location eligibility by using the interactive mapping tool at greatstreets.dc.gov.
2. Be a registered business in Good Standing with the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), the DC Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR), the DC Department of Employment Services (DOES), and the federal Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
3. Retain site control of the business property either through fee simple ownership or an executed contract or lease with the property owner with a minimum unexpired term of at least two (2) years.
4. Provide proof that the business' average annual revenue (based on the last three completed fiscal years), or the projected average annual revenue for the first three years "in business" does not exceed \$1 million. Provide proof of property and liability insurance (an insurance quote is permitted for new businesses) compliant with the requirements set forth in the grant application.

Prior to the execution of a grant agreement with the District, the grantee must enter into a First Source Agreement with the DC Department of Employment Services (DOES). More information about the First Source Employment Program can be found at <http://does.dc.gov/page/first-source-employment-program>.

Availability of the Request for Applications (RFA): The grant application will be released on April 1, 2016. The RFA will be posted on DMPED website (dmped.dc.gov) and the Great Streets website (greatstreets.dc.gov).

Grant Information Sessions: DMPED will host an informational sessions for H Street-Bladensburg NE Corridor to provide an overview of the grant process and to answer questions from potential applicants. Once confirmed, details about the informational sessions will be posted on the Great Streets website at greatstreets.dc.gov.

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Deadline for Electronic Submission: Applicants must submit a completed online application to DMPED via the ZoomGrants system by **April 16, 2016 by 12pm**

DMPED reserves the right to issue addenda and/or amendments subsequent to the issuance of the NOFA or RFA, or to rescind the NOFA or RFA at any time.