

DEPARTMENT OF SMALL AND LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

12th Street NE Storefront Improvement Program

The Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) is soliciting applications from eligible applicants for its 12th Street NE Storefront Improvement Program (“Program”) grant. Through the Program, DSLBD provides one-to-one matching grant funds up to \$5,000 and technical assistance to help eligible business owners complete storefront improvements that support the Program’s objectives to: 1) Increase customer foot traffic and sales for small and local businesses; 2) Stimulate complementary private investment in 12th Street NE commercial properties; and 3) Brand the Brookland commercial district as an attractive, safe shopping destination.

The Program is managed by DSLBD with review assistance from the Washington Area Community Investment Fund (WACIF). The grant awards are funded through a \$25,000 community benefit provided by Abdo Development (Zoning Commission Order 08-24).

The Program service area is 12th Street NE between Rhode Island Avenue, NE and Michigan Avenue, NE. If awarded, Grantees will have two months to complete the storefront improvements by October 31, 2013.

Eligible applicants are business owners who operate in a commercial property with a storefront on 12th St., NE between Rhode Island Ave. NE and Michigan Ave., NE and meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the Program Guidelines (see below).

DSLBD will select grant recipients through a competitive application process that will assess the demonstrated need and impact of the proposed storefront improvements. Additional points are awarded: to applicants that are DC residents and/or long-time DC business; and for improvements that support the Mayor’s Sustainable DC Plan goals and/or use certified business enterprises (CBEs).

The **Request for Application** (RFA) comprises:

1. Program Guidelines, which are available online at www.dslbd.dc.gov in the “Featured News: section of the home page; and
2. Application Form, which is available online to eligible business owners that submit an Expression of Interest form (see below).

The online submission of the **application is due by 4:00PM EDT on July 19, 2013.**

To submit an **Expression of Interest**, please:

- Visit <http://dcbiz.ecenterdirect.com>;
- Click “Sign up to be a SBRC Client”; and
- Enter “12th Street SIP” in the notes field.

For more information, please contact Camille Nixon at the Department of Small and Local Business Development at (202) 727-3900 or camille.nixon@dc.gov.