

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

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

**FY24 Emerging Neighborhood Grants Omnibus
(Great Streets, Neighborhood Prosperity Fund, Locally Made)**

Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: Friday, January 26, 2024

The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) assists the Mayor in the coordination, planning, supervision, and execution of economic development efforts in the District of Columbia with the goal of creating and preserving affordable housing, creating jobs and increasing tax revenue. DMPED pursues policies and programs that assist in meeting the focus areas listed in the District’s Comeback Plan: (1) Thriving People; (2) Opportunity-rich Neighborhoods; and (3) Successful Businesses.

Through this Notice of Funding Availability, DMPED is announcing the availability of approximately **\$7,000,000.00** in fiscal year 2024 (FY24) funding for its Emerging Neighborhood Grant Program, contingent upon the availability of FY24 appropriations. The FY24 Emerging Neighborhood Grant incorporates three separate solicitations: (1) FY24 Great Streets Retail, (2) FY24 Locally Made Manufacturing, and (3) FY24 Neighborhood Prosperity Fund Program.

FY24 Great Streets Retail

RFA Identification No: DMPED – FY24 - GSR

Background:

DMPED is soliciting grant applications from qualified small business owners who wish to improve their place of business or open a new retail business. The purpose of the Great Streets Retail Small Business Grant is to support existing small businesses, attract new businesses, increase the District’s tax base, create new job opportunities for District residents, and transform designated emerging commercial corridors into thriving, inviting, amenity-rich neighborhoods. DMPED will award up to a maximum of **\$2,550,000.00** to grantees under this program.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Great Streets Initiative is to transform certain designated emerging commercial corridors into thriving, walkable, shoppable and inviting neighborhood experiences. The Great Streets Initiative does this by supporting existing businesses, attracting new businesses, increasing the District’s tax base, and creating new job opportunities for residents through capital improvement grants.

The Great Streets Retail program has identified the following funding priorities:

1. The program encourages existing and new neighborhood-based retail-oriented

businesses which seek access to capital to improve their place of business, open a new business, re-imagining their service approach by expanding services, and/or to fill a need in designated emerging corridor.

2. The program grows the District’s local small business economy and bolster neighborhoods through increasing access to neighborhood-based retail amenities. DMPED seeks to invest in 13 retail priority areas, “Great Streets Corridors,” with the goal of creating livable, walkable, shoppable, community-serving retail experiences across all eight wards.
3. DMPED seeks to invest in small businesses which:
 - a. Activate or stabilize emerging neighborhoods through its physical presence.
 - b. Maintain and/or create new jobs.
 - c. Improve the customer experience via interior remodeling or e-commerce systems.
 - d. Attract private investment in emerging neighborhoods.

Grants under the program will be made pursuant to the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Limited Grant-Making Authority Amendment Act 2016, effective October 8, 2016 (D.C. Law 21-160; D.C. Official Code § 1-328.04); and “Great Streets Neighborhood Retail Priority Area Amendment Act of 2013” effective October 1, 2013 (D.C. Official Code § 2-1217.73b). DMPED invites the submission of applications for the program.

Eligible applicants: A new or existing small business owner whose business location is either within, and/or plans to move to a **Great Street Corridor** or Ward 2 Expansion are eligible. See link to map and chart below: <https://opendata.dc.gov/apps/great-streets-lookup/explore>

- **List of the Great Street Corridors:**

7 th Streets/Georgia Avenue NW	North Capitol Street NW/NE
Connecticut Avenue NW	Pennsylvania Avenue SE
Georgia Avenue NW	Wisconsin Avenue NW
H Street-Bladensburg Road NE	Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue NE
Minnesota/Benning Road NE	Rhode Island Avenue NE
Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE/South Capitol Street SE/SW	U Street/14 th Street NW (Adams Morgan/Columbia Heights/Mt. Pleasant)
New York Avenue NE	

- All past recipients are eligible, but preference will go towards businesses never awarded or businesses expanding their existing operations.

Ineligible businesses: adult entertainment, auto body repair, bank, bar or nightclub, as defined by an ABRA license, construction/general contracting/architecture/design-build, e-commerce

business, financial services, home-based, hotel, liquor store, phone store, professional services, real estate development/property management/realtor, cannabis-based businesses, and seasonal (open only part of the year).

For additional eligibility requirements and exclusions, please review the Request for Application (RFA) which will be posted at <http://greatstreets.dc.gov> by **Friday, January 26, 2024**.

Anticipated Number of Awards: DMPED anticipates up to 35 awards ranging from \$25,000 up to \$85,000. Based on the external and/or internal review panel recommendations, the Mayor’s budget priorities, the resources available, the goal of achieving a balance as to communities served, and the goals of the program, DMPED will make the final funding decision. DMPED will award up to **\$2,550,000.00** total in grants to be disbursed to successful applicants. The maximum request per application is **\$85,000.00**.

Final Determination of Award: Anticipated timing is between 45 days after the date the RFA closes.

Period of Performance: Effective date of grant agreement begins between April/May 2024.

Grant Information Sessions: DMPED will host an in-person grant conference on **Monday, February 5, 2024**, followed by virtual information sessions. Once confirmed, details about the information sessions will be posted on the Great Streets website at www.greatstreets.dc.gov.

Contact Name: DMPED Grants Team **Phone:** 202-727-6365 **Email:** dmped.grants@dc.gov

Deadline for Electronic Submission: Applicants must submit a completed online pre-application to DMPED via the Grant Vantage system no later than 5:00 PM/ET on **Friday, March 15, 2024**.

FY24 Locally Made

RFA Identification No.: DMPED – FY24LMM

Background:

DMPED invites the submission of proposals for the DC Local Equity, Access and Preservation Funds – Locally Made Manufacturing Grant Program (“Locally Made”) pursuant to the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Limited Grant-Making Authority Amendment Act 2016, effective October 8, 2016 (D.C. Law 21-160; D.C. Official Code § 1-328.04); “Great Streets Neighborhood Retail Priority Area Amendment Act of 2013” effective October 1, 2013 (D.C. Official Code § 2-1217.73b). DMPED will award up to a maximum of **\$1,450,000.00** to grantees under this program.

Purpose:

DMPED recognizes manufacturing supply chains have become more complicated due to multiple suppliers, challenging international trade and import and export regulations, and the rapid acceleration of e-commerce demands and absorption, and the exacerbation of the COVID-19 global pandemic and public health emergency. Supply chains were distressed and, in some cases,

disrupted. There is an increasing need to manufacture and procure consumer goods locally.

Locally Made incentivizes and bolsters the Great Streets initiative to grow the District's local small business economy and bolster neighborhoods with inadequate access to retail opportunities. The purpose of the Great Streets Initiative is to transform certain designated emerging commercial corridors into thriving, walkable, shoppable and inviting neighborhood experiences. DMPED invests in 13 retail priority areas, "Great Streets Corridors," with the goal of creating livable, walkable, shoppable, community-serving retail experiences across all eight wards. The Great Streets Initiative does this by supporting existing businesses, attracting new businesses, increasing the District's tax base, and creating new job opportunities for District residents.

DMPED believes that the industrial sector can and will flourish in the District, increase employment opportunities for local residents, and offer light manufacturing opportunities that provide economic stability, mitigate blight, and add vibrancy to our designated Great Streets corridors. The Locally Made grants will support qualified small businesses for the capital or tenant improvements of commercial property with a designated industrial use.

The Locally Made Grant program identified the following funding priorities.

1. The Great Streets program grows the District's local small business economy and bolsters neighborhoods with inadequate access to retail opportunities. DMPED seeks to invest in 13 retail priority areas, "Great Streets Corridors," with the goal of creating livable, walkable, shoppable, community-serving retail experiences across all eight wards.
2. DMPED seeks to invest in small businesses:
 - a. Have core operations which align with small to medium light manufacturing of consumer goods (i.e., dry goods, processed foods, beverages, baby food, consumer electronics, frozen food, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology-based food and medicines, medical devices) and/or consumer durables (appliances, furniture, equipment).
 - b. That currently operates or will operate within a designated Great Streets Corridor.
 - c. That maintains and/or create new jobs, with a commitment to hire District residents.
 - d. That serves or may serve a community anchor and impacts the Great Streets corridor and community by its presence, and
 - e. That can support existing retailers and the designated Great Streets corridor's economic vitality by attracting new consumers and/or visitors to the area.

Eligible applicants: A new or existing business that will operate as a lite manufacturer and is located either within, and/or plans to move to a **Great Street Corridor** or Ward 2 Expansion are eligible areas. See link to map and chart below: <https://opendata.dc.gov/apps/great-streets-lookup/explore>

- **List of the Great Street Corridors:**

7 th Streets/Georgia Avenue NW	North Capitol Street NW/NE
Connecticut Avenue NW	Pennsylvania Avenue SE
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Minnesota/Benning Road NE	Rhode Island Avenue NE
Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE/South Capitol Street SE/SW	U Street/14 th Street NW (Adams Morgan/Columbia Heights/Mt. Pleasant)
New York Avenue NE	

- All past recipients are eligible, but preference will go towards businesses never awarded or businesses expanding their existing operations.

Ineligible applicants: adult entertainment, auto body repair, bank, bar or nightclub, as defined by an ABRA license, construction/general contracting/architecture/design-build, e-commerce business, financial services, home-based, hotel, liquor store, phone store, professional services, real estate development/property management/realtor, cannabis-based businesses, seasonal (open only part of the year).

Anticipated Number of Awards: DMPED anticipates between 2 and 6 awards ranging from \$250,000 up to \$1,200,000. Based on the external and internal review panel recommendations, the Mayor’s budget priorities, the resources available, the goal of achieving a balance as to communities served, and the goals of the program, DMPED will make the final funding decision. DMPED will award up to **\$1,450,000.00** total in grants to be disbursed to successful applicants. The minimum request per application is **\$250,000.00**.

For additional eligibility requirements and exclusions, please review the Request for Application (RFA) which will be posted at <http://dmped.dc.gov> by **Friday, January 26, 2024**.

Final Determination of Award: Anticipated timing for processing applications is 45 days after the date the RFA closes.

Period of Performance: Effective date of grant agreement begins between April/May 2024.

Grant Information Sessions: DMPED will host an in-person grant conference on **Monday, February 5, 2024**, followed by virtual information sessions. Once confirmed, details about the information sessions will be posted on the Great Streets website at www.greatstreets.dc.gov.

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Deadline for Electronic Submission: Applicants must submit a completed online pre-application to DMPED via the Grant Vantage system no later than 5:00 PM/ET on **Friday, March 15, 2024.**

FY24 Neighborhood Prosperity Fund

RFA Identification No.: DMPED – FY24NPF

Background:

DMPED invites the submission of proposals for the Neighborhood Prosperity Fund (NPF) pursuant to D.C. Official Code §2-1210.71. DMPED will award up to a maximum of **\$3,000,000.00** in FY24 to grantees under this program.

Purpose:

NPF incentivizes community development, economic growth, and job creation by leveraging local funds to provide financing for projects that attract private investment to emerging communities. Grant funds support architectural and engineering costs, construction costs, tenant improvements, historical preservation building improvements to maintain compliance with applicable laws, development analysis, rent abatement and/or tenant concessions for up to 3 years to stabilize market rent.

The FY24 Neighborhood Prosperity Fund Grant identified the following program funding priorities and investments strategy to support our communities.

The administrations strategic vision is centered around 3 focus areas:

- **Successful businesses** play a critical role in our economy by providing residents with jobs that allow them to thrive, contributing to a vibrant cultural landscape, and generating tax revenue, which supports a broad range of social services and other public priorities.
- **Opportunity-rich neighborhoods** should be available to everyone in DC. The neighborhood where a person grows up plays a fundamental role in determining life outcomes. Physical components of the neighborhood like green space, grocery stores, transit, and housing, together with amenities like healthcare and education, shape residents' economic outcomes.
- **Thriving people** are DC's greatest strength. Because their choice to live in the District is essential to our economic sustainability, we will take significant steps to ensure that DC is the place where they want to live and can afford to do so.

Through the Neighborhood Prosperity Fund Grant, DMPED is prioritizing, but not limited to eliminating key amenity gaps across all neighborhoods.

1. Food Access and Security

Mayor Bowser released the "Food Access & Food Security in the District of Columbia:

Responding to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency” report¹ that outlined the current state of food security in the District. Food insecurity is a chronic condition that existed before the onset of the public health emergency, when 10.6% of District residents were food insecure. COVID-19 has exacerbated food insecurity in the District, with even higher rates among vulnerable populations, including the elderly, children, undocumented individuals, and unhoused individuals.

DMPED will seek to fund projects whose activities will provide healthy food-related good and services in the communities that: (1) lack access to healthy food options; (2) indicate patters of non-healthy food consumption (such as low rates of fruit and vegetable consumption); (3) suffer from poor health indicators (such as high rates of obesity, diabetes and other diet-related chronic disease); (4) have high concentrations of persons participating in food assistance programs (for instance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; Women, Infants, and Children food packages; school lunch programs); or (5) demonstrate other indications of need for healthy food interventions.

2. Healthcare Equity

The inaugural Health Equity Report for the District of Columbia (DC HER) 2018² provided a baseline assessment of health equity and opportunities for health in Washington DC. For Driver 7 – Medical Care, the report indicates that major investments over the past decade mean that primary care service supply and availability has expanded across the District, enough for the resident population. However, gaps persist, particularly in specialty services and urgent care.

The March of Dimes issued its “Nowhere to Go: Maternity Care Deserts Across the U.S.” report³ discussing the unequal access to maternity care found throughout the nation, highlight current research, and elevate its impact on maternal and baby health. Although the District is not considered a maternal health desert, Ward 7 and 8 lags the rest of the city for services. Access to quality maternity care is a critical component of maternal health and positive birth outcomes.

DMPED will seek to fund projects whose activities will provide investment in healthcare infrastructure, including the construction, renovation, or expansion of upcoming health center projects serving low-income people and communities lacking adequate access to affordable care and provision of urgent care and/or maternal health care services.

Eligible applicants: Include 501(c)(3) non-profit corporations, joint ventures, partnerships, cooperatives, and limited liability types of companies, corporations, and for-profit and non-profit developers.

Eligible Projects are defined as projects that combine two or more of the following types of

¹ Food Security Report - Food Access & Food Security in the District of Columbia: Responding to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (September 2020). <https://dcfoodpolicy.org/foodsecurity2020/>

² Health Equity Report for the District of Columbia (DC HER) 2018 (February 2019). <https://app.box.com/s/yspij8v81cxqyeb17gj3uifjumb7ufsw>

³ March of Dimes Report - Nowhere to Go: Maternity Care Deserts Across the U.S. (September 2020) <https://www.marchofdimes.org/materials/2020-Maternity-Care-Report.pdf>

development: mixed used (commercial portion only), retail, food services, office, or special purpose developments limited to urgent care centers and other health or medical facilities. Development projects must be within the boundaries listed in this interactive mapping tool: <http://arcg.is/OLz80>.

- All past recipients are eligible, but preference will go towards businesses never awarded or businesses expanding their existing operations.

Ineligible applicants: adult entertainment, auto body repair, bank, bar or nightclub, as defined by an ABRA license, construction/general contracting/architecture/design-build, e-commerce business, financial services, home-based, hotel, liquor store, phone store, professional services, cannabis-based businesses, seasonal (open only part of the year).

Anticipated Number of Awards: DMPED anticipates making between 2 and 6 awards ranging from \$300,000 up to \$2,700,000. Based on the external and internal review panel recommendations, the Mayor's budget priorities, the resources available, the goal of achieving a balance as to communities served, and the goals of the program, DMPED will make the final funding decision. DMPED will award up to **\$2,700,000** total in grants to be disbursed to successful applicants. The minimum request per application is **\$300,000**.

For additional eligibility requirements and exclusions, please review the Request for Application (RFA) which will be posted at <http://dmped.dc.gov> by **Friday, January 26, 2024**.

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