

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

FY2023 NEIGHBORHOOD PROSPERITY FUND

Grant Identification No.: DMPED – FY23-03 NPF

Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: Monday, January 30, 2023

The Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) invites the submission of proposals for the Neighborhood Prosperity Fund (NPF) pursuant to DC Official Code §2- DMPED will award up to a maximum of \$4,000,000.00 million in FY23 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 distressed 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.

Funding Priorities: The FY23 Neighborhood Prosperity Fund Grant identified the following program funding priorities and three-pronged investments strategy to support our communities.

1. Economic Growth and Employment

The administration’s vision is to become the “global model for inclusive prosperity”. The administration’s priority is to: (1) grow a vibrant and resilient economy driven by private sector expansion and (2) reduce unemployment across wards, races and educational attainment levels. DMPED will fund projects to fill the gaps in non-residential components of a mixed used project or commercial development project in targeted census tracts (identified later) with greater than 10% unemployment.

2. 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 goods and services in communities that: (1) lack access to healthy food options; (2) indicate patterns 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/>

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.

3. 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 city for services. Access to quality maternity care is a critical component of maternal health and positive birth outcomes. Here also, COVID-19 is influencing the District and its response to think more critically and holistically about improvements in maternal and infant care.

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.

Eligibility: 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 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. Projects must be within the statutory boundaries of the Neighborhood Prosperity Fund. Prospective applicants can verify their location eligibility via the interactive mapping tool found at <http://arcg.is/OLz80>. Projects located outside of a qualifying Neighborhood Prosperity Fund statutory boundary will not be considered.

Award: 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

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>

the goals of the program, DMPED will make the final funding decision. DMPED shall award up to **\$4,000,000.00** total in grants to be disbursed to successful applicants of the FY23 Neighborhood Prosperity Fund. Minimum request per application is \$600,000.00.

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 business, hotel, liquor store, phone store, professional services, real estate development/property management/realtor, 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://dmped.dc.gov> by **Monday, January 30, 2023**.

Grant Information Sessions: DMPED will host a virtual information and live web chat session on the Neighborhood Prosperity Fund. Once confirmed, details about the information sessions will be posted on the Great Streets website at <http://dmped.dc.gov>.

For More Information: Visit NPF's website at <https://greatstreets.dc.gov/page/neighborhood-prosperity-fund-npf>.

Reservations: DMPED reserves the right to issue addenda and/or amendments subsequent to the issuance of the NOFA or RFA, or it may rescind the NOFA or RFA at any time in its sole discretion.

Period of Performance: The Period of Performance under the Grant Agreement shall extend through September 30, 2023.

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

Deadline for Electronic Submission: Applicants must submit a completed online application to DMPED via the Grant Vantage system no later than 5:00 PM/ET on **Friday, March 03, 2023**.