

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

AMENDED NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)

FY26 Great Streets Retail Grant Program

Amended Request for applications (RFA) Release Date: January 13th, 2026

RFA ID No: FY26-BD-LO-GSR

Introduction: The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (“DMPED”) invites the submission of applications from qualified organizations for a grant under the Great Streets Retail grant program (“Program”) The purpose of the Program is to emphasize retention and innovation within commercially underserved corridors, supporting projects that foster the long-term sustainability of essential goods and services in vital retail areas. The program aims to strengthen and revitalize commercially underserved corridors by supporting new and existing businesses through investments that go beyond traditional capital improvements. Funding will prioritize innovative projects and collaborations that foster long-term business retention, attract new opportunities, and drive corridor wide transformation. The goal is to create vibrant, resilient commercial corridors where businesses and community stakeholders work together to generate lasting economic impact.

The funding opportunity is to fund businesses that are proposing the following:

1. Revitalize commercial corridors by activating vacant storefronts and underutilized retail spaces.
2. Support transformative businesses that go beyond serving their own operations to improve their surrounding neighborhoods.
3. Encourage innovation and collaboration between local businesses, residents and stakeholders.
4. Strengthen neighborhood identity and character by supporting businesses that reflect the unique culture of each area.
5. Establish a new location or broaden operations and services to strengthen the vitality of the commercial corridor.

The Program is for businesses in permanent, street-facing, brick-and-mortar locations and select non-profits. The Program encourages existing and new neighborhood-based retail-oriented businesses that seek access to funding to improve their place of business and reimagine their service approach by expanding services and making capital improvements.

Authority: The Program will be funded pursuant to the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Limited Grant-Making Authority Act of 2012, effective September 20, 2012, D.C. Official Code § 1-328.04(a)(5) and D.C. Official Code §2-1217.73(b).

Anticipated Number of Awards: DMPED expects to award multiple grants under the Program, in an aggregate amount of up to \$2,000,000, contingent on the availability of an appropriated budget in such amount. Awards are anticipated to be up to \$90,000.

Eligibility: Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria to be considered for an award under the Program:

- Operate as a retail, restaurant, retail service business, childcare center, or nonprofit organization in the arts and humanities sector
- Businesses may be new or existing businesses
- Have site control in a street-facing commercial brick-and-mortar location on the 1st or 2nd floor of the building. Must demonstrate site control through an executed lease or deed.
- Applicants that have received Great Streets, Locally Made, Neighborhood Prosperity Fund or Food Access Fund in the last 5 years (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025) are not eligible to apply for the same business location. Preference will be given to new grantees that have not previously received funding.
- Average annual revenue for the last three years must be below \$3 million
- Be located in or abutting an existing Great Streets corridor, as defined in D.C. Code § 2–1217.73. See map: <https://opendata.dc.gov/apps/great-streets-lookup/explore>

Additional details about eligibility and criteria for selecting applicants will be included in the RFA.

Grant Information Session: DMPED will host virtual and in-person information sessions for interested applicants. Please check DMPED’s website for more details:

<https://dmped.dc.gov/service/grant-opportunities>.

Contact Information: Great Streets Program Team **Phone:** (202) 727-6365 **Email:** greatstreets@dc.gov

Availability of RFA: The Amended RFA will be released on January 13th, 2026, and posted at <https://dmped.dc.gov/service/grant-opportunities>.

Grant Application Submission Deadline: Applications will be accepted through January 23, 2026, at 12:00PM ET. All applications must be submitted electronically, according to the instructions contained in the RFA. Late applications will not be accepted.

Application Process: The grant application process will include an initial screening of applications to evaluate the completeness of the application, followed by scoring by a review panel, and a final approval of funding by the Deputy Mayor. Within 45 days of the application close date, DMPED will notify all applicants as to whether the application is moving from the initial screening phase to the scoring phase.

Final Determination of Award: DMPED anticipates making a final determination of award within four months of the application close date. Award and funding determinations are final and cannot be appealed. The Deputy Mayor will make the final funding decision, based on a review panel’s recommendations, the Mayor’s budget priorities, the available resources, the goal of achieving a balance as to communities served, and the goals of the Program.

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.