DEPARTMENT OF SMALL AND LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

Fiscal Year 2027 H Street Northeast Corridor Events Activation Grant Program

This Notice of Funding Availability (**"NOFA"**), in combination with the Request for Applications (**"RFA"**), which will be released when the grant opens, constitutes the full set of instructions to assist applicants with completing competitive applications for the Fiscal Year (**"FY"**) 2027 H Street Northeast Corridor Events Activation Grant Program. **Applicants are required to read both documents in their entirety before applying**.

The District of Columbia ("**DC**," **D.C.**," or "**District**") Department of Small and Local Business Development ("**DSLBD**" or "**Department**") is pleased to announce that it will begin soliciting applications for the FY27 H Street Northeast Corridor Events Activation Grant Program (**"H Street Grant" or the "Grant Program"**) on or about **October 28, 2026 at 9:00 am Eastern Time ("ET")**.

The Grant Program is intended to increase foot traffic along H Street NE by funding the creation and marketing of a minimum of three events along the corridor from 3rd Street NE to 15th Street NE, and within a one block radius of this boundary, by September 30, 2027. The events must be based around art, live music, local corridor business collaboration, and other areas that will drive pedestrian traffic. Grant Program funding shall not include funding for the existing H Street Festival.

The Department intends to award one (1) grant of $175,000, the total available funding for FY27.

The competitive application will open on October 28, 2026, at 9:00 am ET, and close on November 25, 2026, at 5:00 pm ET. Applications will only be accepted through the online application system listed in the corresponding RFA that will be posted on DSLBD's website.

Who can Apply?
To be eligible for this grant opportunity, applicants must be a District-based for-profit or District-based non-profit entity not currently funded through DSLBD's Main Streets Program.

Applicants are also required to provide, among other items, a current Certificate of Clean Hands ("**CCH**") from the District's Office of Tax and Revenue ("**OTR**"), proof of an active Business License from the District's Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection ("**DLCP**"), and a signed affidavit attesting to compliance with applicable program conditions.

How do I Apply?
Instructions are included in the RFA, which will be available for download on DSLBD's website on or before October 28, 2026. Applicants are required to read the full RFA at: https://dslbd.dc.gov/service/current-grant-opportunities.

How can the Funds be Used?
Grant funding may be used for costs incurred in furtherance of the grant program, including the non-profit indirect rate, if applicable, wages, sub-contractor payments, equipment, supplies, events, programmatic activities, and other expenses deemed reasonable by the Department in its sole discretion. All expenses must be incurred from the effective date of the relevant grant agreement through September 30, 2027. Additional uses and restrictions will be outlined in the RFA.

How Will Awardees be Selected?
The H Street Grant awardee will be selected through a competitive application process. A panel will review timely submitted and complete applications from eligible applicants and score them using the criteria discussed in detail within the RFA, as well as the applicant's past performance and submitted program plans, resumes, and other provided materials.

The Director of DSLBD will approve all grant awards at the final stage. Grant award announcements will be made on or around December 11, 2026.

Questions?
DSLBD will hold virtual information sessions concerning the grant program. Details on information sessions will be provided in the RFA alongside a registration link, and they will also be listed on DSLBD's Eventbrite page, on or around October 28, 2026. Applicants are highly encouraged to attend an information session.

Questions asked outside of the virtual information sessions must be submitted in writing to DSLBD at DC.mainstreets@dc.gov. DSLBD will begin answering questions after the grant opens on October 28, 2026. DSLBD will not respond to questions over the phone. All questions must be submitted no later than November 20, 2026 at 5:00 pm ET.

Reservation of Rights
DSLBD reserves the right to issue addenda, modifications, and/or amendments after the issuance of this NOFA or the corresponding RFA, or to rescind the NOFA or RFA at any time.

Shortened Notice Period
This notice is being published fewer than 14 calendar days before the release of the RFA to ensure the Grant funds are disbursed by December 31, 2026, in accordance with the Amendment to the Report and Recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Local Business Development on the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget for Agencies Under its Purview, dated May 18, 2026.