

DEPARTMENT OF SMALL AND LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)

COMMERCIAL WASTE COMPACTOR PILOT PROGRAM GRANTS

The Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD), through a grant manager, is soliciting applications from eligible DC business owners for the **Commercial Waste Compactor Pilot Program** (the “Program”) grants. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis June 30, 2017. **The submission deadline is Friday, September 8, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.**

The Program comprises:

1. grants to offset compactor costs, which is funded by the Department of Public Works (DPW), administered by DSLBD and managed by a grants manager; and
2. business owner education and impact metrics measurement of rodent activity and sanitation violations through a partnership with Department of Health (DOH)’s *Rat Riddance Initiative*.

For the grant component, DPW will fund, through DSLBD, the **purchase or lease of commercial waste compactors** by businesses to collect and compact bulk trash and other waste including recyclables. Through the installation of commercial waste compactors and the education of business and property owners, DPW, DSLBD, and DOH seek to reduce: 1) the likelihood of accidental pollution through spills or wind-blown debris; 2) rodent activity near businesses; and 3) the number of trips to haul waste. In doing so, the Program will support the Sustainable DC goals to minimize the generation of greenhouse gas emissions and reduce the volume of waste disposed (www.sustainabledc.org).

Eligible applicants are DC-based for-profit businesses that are: a) incorporated (domestic or foreign incorporation); b) licensed in the District of Columbia; c) open and operating in the District of Columbia; and d) in good standing with the Government of District of Columbia.

Amount and Number of Awards: DSLBD, through a grants manager, will award individual businesses **up to \$13,500 for the purchase** of an eligible compactor or **up to \$9,000 for the lease** of an eligible compactor, which must be installed at a business located in the District of Columbia. DSLBD’s grant manager will continue to award grants to eligible applicants with approved applications until the grant fund is depleted or through September 22, 2017, whichever comes first (up to approximately 65 awards). An eligible business may only receive one grant award to purchase or lease. Multiple businesses, which are located in same vicinity and would like to share a compactor, may apply individually for the pro-rated cost of the shared compactor (i.e., the total cost divided but number of businesses sharing the compactor) as long as the pro-rated amount does not exceed the individual award limit (\$13,500 purchase or \$9,000 lease).

The **applicant is responsible for associated costs** to install, use and maintain the compactor, which may include: a) electrical wiring to supply adequate power; b) creating adequate installation surface for the compactor (e.g., installing concrete pad); c) permit fees if installation location is in public space; and/or d) hauling of compacted waste.

The **grant performance period** begins when the business owner signs the grant agreement and ends 12 months later, or at the end of the lease, whichever is greater. As a grant recipient, the business must allow DPW, DSLBD and/or its grant manager access to monitor installation and use of the waste compactor. Business owners must also report on the number of hauling trips, rodent incidents, and other metrics as outlined in the grant agreement.

Application Process: Request for Applications (RFA or “Application”) will be available on or before Friday, June 30, 2017 and can be accessed from a link on DSLBD’s home page at www.dslbd.dc.gov. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Interested applicants must complete and submit their application anytime on or before **Friday, September 8, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.** Late submissions will not be reviewed.

Selection Criteria for applications includes: a) Applicant (business owner)’s demonstrates its eligibility to receive public funds; b) request for eligible equipment; c) submission of complete application including estimates and installation plan (brief contractor questionnaire); d) attestation the equipment will be installed at the applicant business’ location in the District of Columbia; and e) the availability of grant funds at the time of application review and approval.

Selection Process: Grant recipients will be selected through a competitive application process using the selection criteria listed above, and awarded grants based on the order their complete application was received. Applicants will be notified if their grant application was approved within 15 business days of application receipt.

Information Sessions: There will be one or more information sessions scheduled during the application period. Dates and locations to be announced in the RFA.

Expression of Interest: Interested business owners may email their contact information to dslbd@dc.gov to receive notification when the application is posted and information sessions scheduled. The email subject line should read *Waste Compactor Grant* and the email message should include: *business name, street address, email address and phone.*

Funding for this award is contingent on continued funding from the grantor. The NOFA does not commit the DPW or DSLBD to make an award.

DSLBD and its grant manager reserve the right to issue an addenda and/or amendments subsequent to the issuance of the NOFA or RFA, or to rescind the NOFA or RFA.

The authorizing legislation for this program is the Trash Compactor Tax Incentive Act of 2014 (Law 20-0223).

For more information, contact DSLBD at (202) 727-3900 or dslbd@dc.gov.