

Department of Economic Development

City of Manassas

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CARES Act Grant Funds Available for Manassas Businesses

Manassas, VA – June 1, 2020 – The City of Manassas is launching a new small businesses relief grant program. The City anticipates receiving CARES Act funds from the Federal government which may be used, in part, to provide support for small businesses adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The City Council and the Economic Development Authority (EDA) intend to use some of these funds to establish a small business grant program. The grant funds are intended to provide support for small businesses of all types which have seen significant revenue losses due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

According to EDA Chairman Mark Olsen "Many of the City's small businesses have been severely impacted by the changes they have been forced to make to address social distancing requirements; especially our retailers, restaurants and personal service providers. The Department of Economic Development has been working very hard to help these businesses by providing resources, advertising and support throughout the crisis. The CARES Act funds that are now available are a sorely needed addition to that support and we look forward to administering this program."

Grants of \$2,500 apiece will be awarded by the EDA to qualified applicants. Depending on the number of applications received, awards may be made using a lottery system and applicants that receive awards must commit to remaining in business until December 30, 2020. Businesses that close their operations in the City prior to that time will be required to repay the grant.

Manassas businesses that receive funding under this program may be required to provide the Department of Economic Development with sales and meals tax filings and/or financial statements to show evidence of business losses. Award recipients may also be asked to provide employment data. Qualifying businesses must meet ALL of the criteria set by the City and the Economic Development Authority. The grant application and guidelines can be found on the City's economic development website at www.ChooseManasssas.org.

To apply, e-mail the completed application to CARESAct@manassasva.gov or mail it to CARES Act, c/o Director of Economic Development, 9027 Center St., Suite 400, Manassas, VA 20110.

CLICK TO READ APPLICATION GUIDELINES

For questions about the application or program, please call 703.257.8881.

About the City of Manassas Department of Economic Development

The City of Manassas fosters economic development through collaborative partnerships, sustainable fiscal management and supportive City services. The Department of Economic Development (DED) is directly responsible for business attraction, retention, expansion and tourism initiatives in the City. As a resourceful and collaborative organization, we work in partnership with our key stakeholders to ensure that we have what businesses need; including a highly educated and technical workforce with access to major universities and first-class training providers. We take an active leadership role in all that we do, serving as a community builder, collaborator and agent of economic growth. For help with your business needs please visit: https://choosemanassas.org/ or call 703.257.8882.