



2022 Small and Accessible Sustainability Grant Program ("Small Grants RFA")

Informational meetings:

First session: December 9, 2021

Second session: January 5, 2022



Agenda

Introductions

Background on DOEE grants and program areas

- Urban Agriculture: Infrastructure and Operations Grant Program
- Ditch the Disposables: Reusable Foodware Grant Program
- Donation and Reuse: Small Grant Program

Small Grants RFA

Purpose and Overview

Application Information

Project Outcomes, Outputs, and Deliverables

Scoring Criteria

Timeline

Questions & Answers

Introductions

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Background Information on DOEE and DOEE Grants



Background: DOEE grants



DOEE works with entities throughout the District to offer grants to carry out programs and projects that advance the agency's mission

Recipients of grant funds include nonprofits, private enterprises, schools, and faith-based organizations



Background: DOEE grants



These grants help connect the agency's work with our communities, as grantees are often better connected to some residents, issues, and locations

DOEE is committed to ensuring that the District's urban and natural environments are constructed and managed in ways that equitably benefit the Capital's disenfranchised communities.

This is where the Small Grants RFA comes in

Sustainability



**economic
viability**



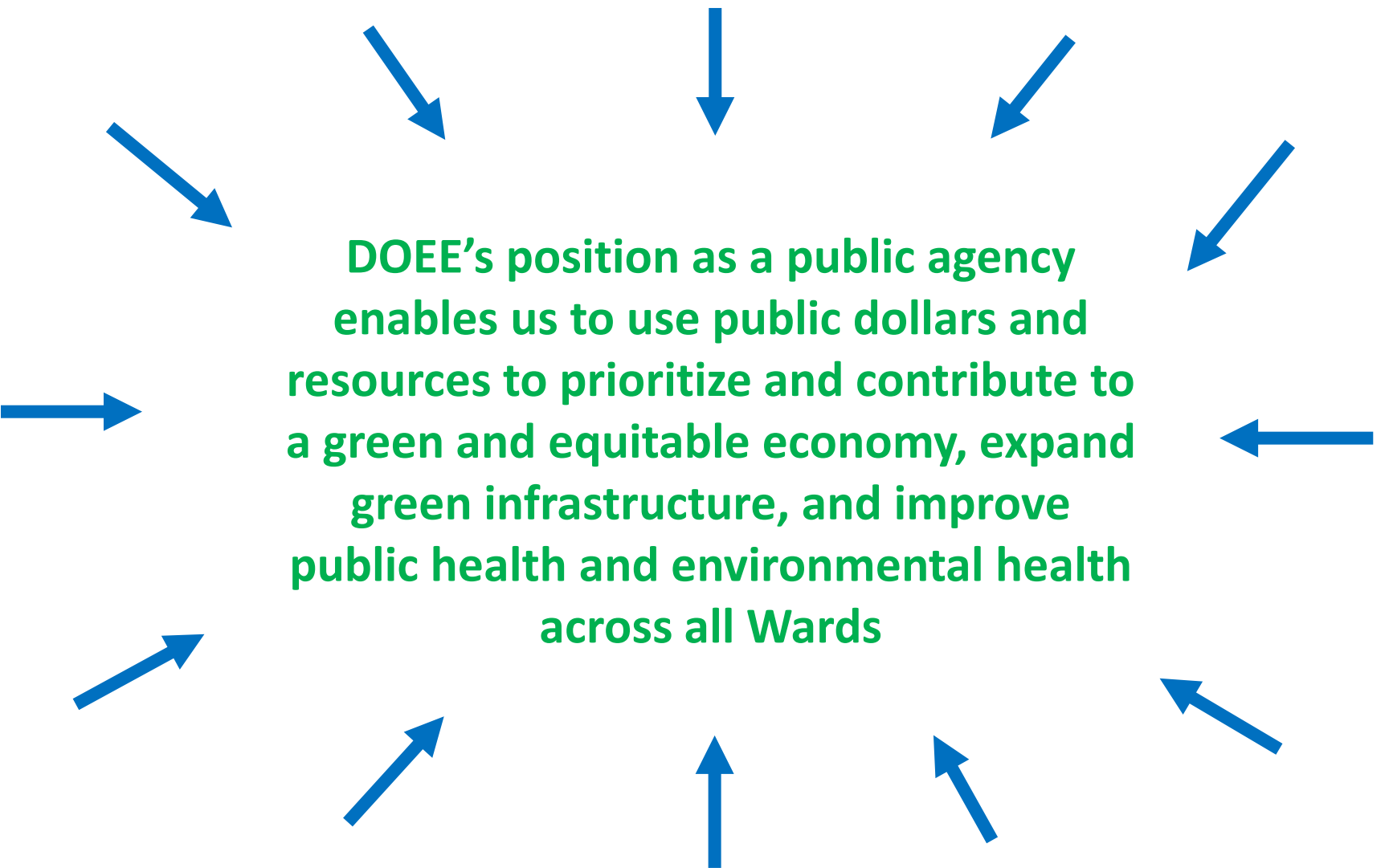
**social
equity**



**environmental
stewardship**



The Bottom Line



DOEE's position as a public agency enables us to use public dollars and resources to prioritize and contribute to a green and equitable economy, expand green infrastructure, and improve public health and environmental health across all Wards

Urban Agriculture



Urban Agriculture



- The Office of Urban Agriculture works to increase food production in the District and support a more sustainable, equitable, and resilient food system
- The District currently has over 12 urban farms – nonprofit, for-profit, soil-based, rooftop, and hydroponic farms
- Despite this growing urban agriculture network, District farmers are under-resourced



Urban Agriculture

The program will cover costs for subgrantees to:

- Increase food crop production, processing and/or distribution
- Improve access to fresh foods among food insecure populations
- Construct facilities that enable agricultural education experiences for District residents
- Accelerate the capacity for farms or farmers in the District's historically marginalized communities

Projects must be completed by Sept. 30, 2022



Ditch the Disposables





From Single-Use to Reusables

The Zero Waste Act passed in 2020 and became law in 2021



Establishes a small grants program for food-serving entities to support transitions from disposable to reusable foodware, for both dine-in and takeout

Why do we need to tackle food service waste?



From Single-Use to Reusables

[HOME](#) > [RETAIL](#)

Restaurant owners describe the cutthroat competition for plastic cups and takeout containers as shortages continue

As carry out surges during the pandemic, landfills are filled with disposable containers

Plastic waste surges as coronavirus prompts restaurants to use more disposable packaging

PUBLISHED SUN, JUN 28 2020-9:15 AM EDT

The Climate Connection: Moving away from disposables

PLASTIC POLLUTION CAUSING HEALTH CRISIS IN POORER COUNTRIES, SAYS REPORT

Toxic 'forever chemicals' are contaminating plastic food containers

Customers Hate Plastic Packaging, So Why Do Companies Keep Using It?

From Single-Use to Reusables

- The small grants program will cover costs for subgrantees to make a foodware transition for all or part of their operations by Sept. 30, 2022
- This includes the purchase of commercial dishwashers and reusable dishes, reusable takeout containers, or third-party reusable container services
- Some funds come from OSSE and will be set aside for schools only



Donation and Reuse



Donation and Reuse



Zero Waste Act creates a new program to increase diversion of reusable material from landfills and incinerators

Program provides subgrants to community organizations and businesses to support waste reduction through donation and reuse



Donation and Reuse



Subgrants will be available to:

- Support and expand reuse infrastructure in the District
- Coordinate direct donation and facilitate exchange of used and surplus material
- Conduct public education and outreach on avoiding single-use products and encouraging reusable items
- Increase public awareness and access to reuse and donation opportunities



2022 Small and Accessible Sustainability Grant Program

("Small Grants RFA")

RFA #2022-2128-USA

Webpage: <https://doee.dc.gov/node/1571341>

Purpose

- To provide District organizations opportunities to **advance District sustainability goals** including reducing waste and expanding urban agriculture
- DOEE will select one grantee (“Grantee”) that will **provide modest subgrants** from this grant’s funding
- The subgrants’ targets will be **small, new, and/or historically-excluded (SNHE) entities**, such as businesses, organizations, non-profits, and charter and public schools
- The Grantee will **award grants and provide community training** for skills needed to win competitive grants from DOEE and similar grantors

Overview

- **\$483,452** available to Grantee to design and administer a small grants program for FY 2022
- Up to that same amount may be available each year, **for up to four years total.**
- Competitive selection process
- Amount includes the **subgrants themselves** and some of the amount **may cover Grantee's administrative costs**
- DOEE funding is provided on a **reimbursement basis**; advances available on a limited basis and must be requested as part of your proposal

Who can apply?

**Nonprofit
organizations**

**Faith-based
organizations**

**Government
agencies**

**Universities
and
educational
institutions**

**Private
enterprises**

Vaccination requirement

The grantee(s) selected in response to this Request for Applications is/are required to comply with Mayor's Order 2021-099, COVID-19 Vaccination Certification Requirement for District Government Employees, Contractors, Interns, and Grantees, dated August 10, 2021, and all substantially similar vaccine requirements including any modifications to this Order, unless and until they are rescinded or superseded.



Application

Compile **all required documents listed in Section 3 of the RFA**, including project summary and description, work plan, and all required forms, documents, and certificates.

Each applicant must submit one electronic copy as a single PDF file to:
2022SmallGrants@dc.gov

Deadline: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 11:59 PM

Late submissions will not be considered

Project outputs and outcomes

	Outputs	Outcomes
Urban Agriculture	<p>Number of...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SNHE farms/farmers that apply ○ SNHE farms/farmers funded ○ new communities with increased fresh food access 	<p>Increased food crop production, access to fresh foods, operations capacity, and increased educational experiences related to urban agriculture</p>
Ditch the Disposables	<p>Number of...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SNHE food-serving entities that apply ○ SNHE food-serving entities funded ○ schools that apply ○ schools that are funded 	<p>Reduction in using disposable foodware at food-serving entities</p> <p>Reduction in using disposable foodware in schools</p>
Donation and Reuse	<p>Number of...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SNHE entities that apply for a grant ○ SNHE entities funded ○ residents and community entities that benefit from the program 	<p>Reduction in waste entering landfills</p>

Deliverables



Quarterly progress reports

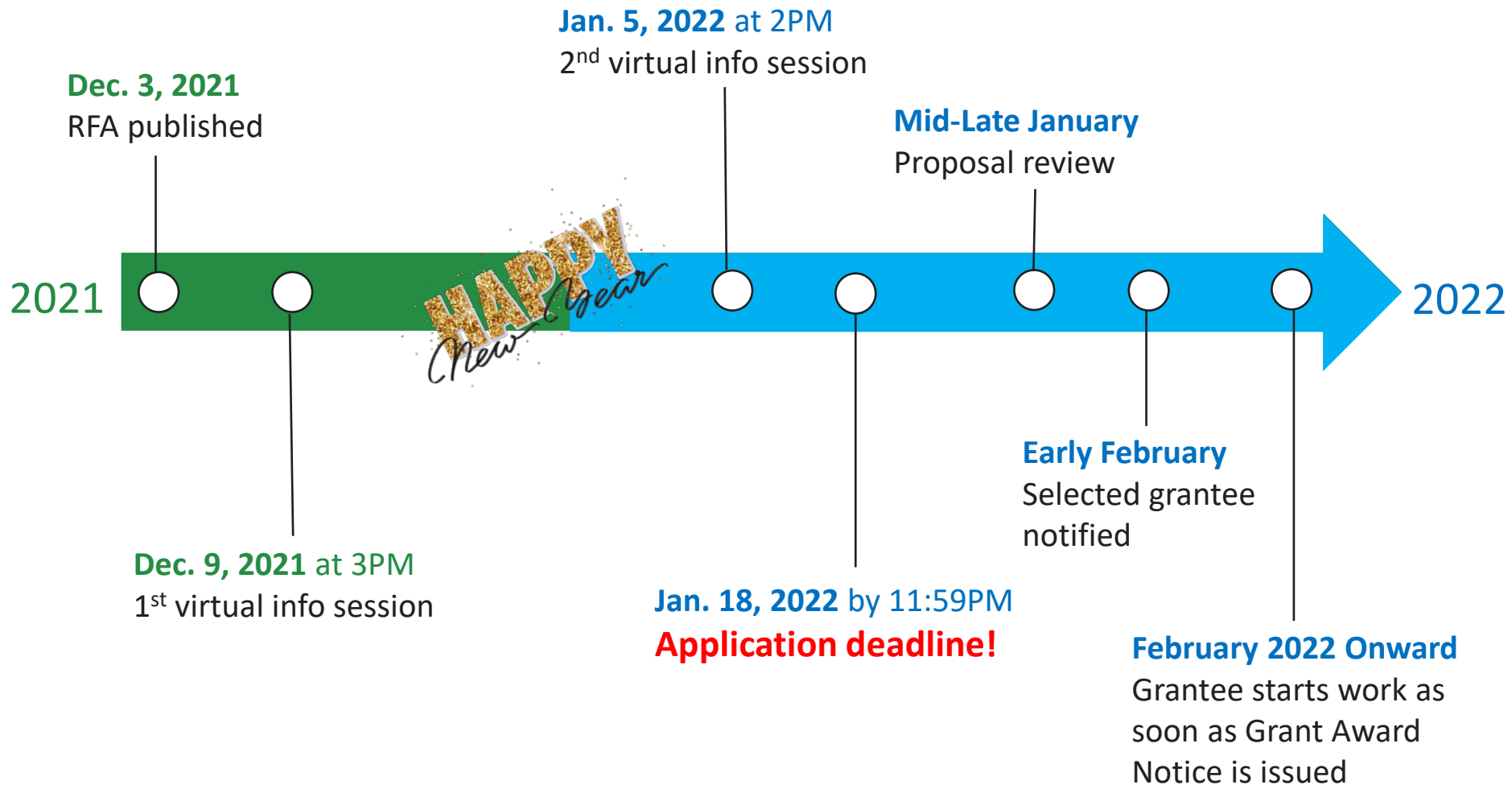


Final report for grant period

Scoring criteria

	Criteria	Points
1	Grants Administration: Presents a strong history of grants management	10
2	Grants Administration: Demonstrates the capacity of Grantee staff to administer the program excellently	10
3	Equitable Application and Selection Process: Presents a solid, convincing plan for supporting potential applicants during the application period and holding a fair and transparent review process	15
4	Management and Support: Demonstrates with specificity how the applicant would monitor and meaningfully support subgrantees with their project implementation in achieving the outcomes expected for the various sources of funding	15
5	Evaluation, recommendations, report, and data collection: Demonstrates the ability to timely, fully, and accurately collect program data	10
6	Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the need for the program	10
7	Presents a clear, feasible timeline that will ensure subgrants are awarded so that there will be adequate time for grantees to perform during the grant period/s	15
8	Presents a persuasive, detailed, numeric budget and a persuasive budget narrative that includes a clear justification for the funds requested	15

RFA timeline





Thank you!

Questions?

2022SmallGrants@dc.gov