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
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.
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

• 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

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

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

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

The Climate Connection: Moving away from disposables.

Plastic pollution causing health crisis in poorer countries, says report.

Customers hate plastic packaging, so why do companies keep using it?

Toxic ‘forever chemicals’ are contaminating plastic food containers.
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
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

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<tr>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Urban Agriculture</strong></td>
<td>Increased food crop production, access to fresh foods, operations capacity, and increased educational experiences related to urban agriculture</td>
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<td>Number of...</td>
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<td>o SNHE farms/farmers that apply</td>
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<td>o SNHE farms/farmers funded</td>
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<td>o new communities with increased fresh food access</td>
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<td><strong>Ditch the Disposables</strong></td>
<td>Reduction in using disposable foodware at food-serving entities</td>
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<td>o SNHE food-serving entities that apply</td>
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<td>o SNHE food-serving entities funded</td>
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<td>o schools that apply</td>
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<td>o schools that are funded</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Donation and Reuse</strong></td>
<td>Reduction in waste entering landfills</td>
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<td>o SNHE entities that apply for a grant</td>
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<td>o SNHE entities funded</td>
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<td>o residents and community entities that benefit from the program</td>
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Deliverables

Quarterly progress reports

Final report for grant period

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# Scoring criteria

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<th>Criteria</th>
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<td>1  Grants Administration: Presents a strong history of grants management</td>
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<td>2  Grants Administration: Demonstrates the capacity of Grantee staff to administer the program excellently</td>
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<td>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</td>
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<td>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</td>
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<td>5  Evaluation, recommendations, report, and data collection: Demonstrates the ability to timely, fully, and accurately collect program data</td>
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<td>6  Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the need for the program</td>
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<td>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</td>
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<td>8  Presents a persuasive, detailed, numeric budget and a persuasive budget narrative that includes a clear justification for the funds requested</td>
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Dec. 3, 2021
RFA published

Dec. 9, 2021 at 3PM
1st virtual info session

Jan. 5, 2022 at 2PM
2nd virtual info session

Jan. 18, 2022 by 11:59PM
Application deadline!

Mid-Late January
Proposal review

Early February
Selected grantee notified

February 2022 Onward
Grantee starts work as soon as Grant Award Notice is issued
Thank you!

Questions?

2022SmallGrants@dc.gov