Sustainable DC 2.0 Community Engagement Grant – Q & A

Q1: Can you please clarify the fourth project output listed in the RFA on page 18 “4. Presentation of final recommendations for further program development and implementation in both a narrative report and a PowerPoint presentation”? Does further "program development" refer to updates in SDC 2.0 plan, or the grant program (outreach/engagement)?
A1: “Program development” means future community engagement around sustainability by DOEE (not necessarily just with the planning process of Sustainable DC 2.0.”

Q2: Did DOEE follow up with the participants in the planning process from initial Sustainable DC 2.0 Launch working group meetings? To what did this lead?
A2: Residents who participated in any community meeting for Sustainable DC 2.0 have been added to the Sustainable DC listserv. Through this listserv they have been invited to other meetings, events, and online opportunities to participate in Sustainable DC. They’ve also received general newsletters to keep them more broadly engaged. The selected grantee will have access to demographic information tracked by DOEE.

Q3: What does continued engagement and ownership from residents look like? How do you measure success in this area?
A3: Measurement of community engagement and feeling of ownership by residents will be done through a brief survey described in the outputs of the grant.

Q4: Depending on how many people receive the grant, would DOEE be flexible on some aspects of grant outcome?
A4: Depending on the amount and scope of selected grantees, DOEE has some flexibility on grant outcomes.

Q5: Will the grant recipient work alongside with the staff? Is the goal to extend current capacity?
A5: The goal for the grantee is a creative extension of the government’s engagement with the community. We want to understand how to better reach more people, especially people who haven’t participated in sustainability initiatives in the past.

Q6: Where is Appendix 4? It doesn’t seem to be online.
A6: We will post this online.

Q7: Is the deadline for completion of all engagement and reporting on that feedback firmly 9/30/2018 or do you anticipate being able to issue extensions?
A7: September 30, 2018 is a firm deadline for completion of all engagement and reporting. We do not anticipate any extensions due to the timeline of Sustainable DC 2.0.

Q8: Some text seems to represent that the grant is both for planning engagement AND implementing that plan by 9/30/2018. Have I understood that correctly that developing a plan for engagement is part of the grant itself. If we were to get input on how to collect feedback or work with local partners to design their own outreach events over that time, would that type of work be considered allowable?
A8: Both planning and implementation of gathering and reporting on community input is required as part of this grant with a firm deadline of September 30, 2018. Working with local partners is encouraged, but all work would need to be complete by September 30, 2018.

Q9: Do organizations have to be registered in DC to apply? If registered outside, and working with local partners for implementation, where should the certificate of good standing be from?
A9: Yes, all applying organizations need to be registered in DC to apply.

Q10: Does DOEE have a specific contact at DCRA to reach out to who could help new small businesses arrange their certificates of good standing?
A10: DOEE does not have a specific contact at DCRA. See: https://dcra.dc.gov/book/corporate-registration-faqs/corporate-registration-faqs-process

Q11: For very small businesses, is a separation of duties statement still required? Can you provide any more details of how this would apply for very small businesses?
A11: See Section 3.3 (g) of the RFA.

Q12: If an organization does not receive the grant award, but still generates public comments and recommendations for the updated Sustainable DC 2.0 plan in August/September, will DOEE have a mechanism/plan for receiving those comments?
A12: Public input is important and will be received outside of the grant. Those comments can be sent to sustainable.future@dc.gov

Q13: Is food an allowable expense for this grant?
A13: No, unfortunately current District legislation does not allow District funding to be used for food as part of this grant.