

# Outdoor Dining Grant Program

## Statement of Purpose

The Outdoor Dining Grant Program provides grant funding to business district supporting organizations or community development corporations in the City of Pittsburgh to allocate towards outdoor infrastructure that allows restaurant activity to occur safely outdoors in preventing or mitigating the spread of the COVID-19 virus on a permanent or semi-permanent basis.

## Program Funding

The Outdoor Dining Grant Program is funded through an allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds in partnership with the City of Pittsburgh's Department of Mobility and Infrastructure.

## Eligibility :

Community organizations whose mission is to support small businesses, enhance neighborhood business districts, community development, or other relevant activity located within the City of Pittsburgh. Businesses that are supported through this grant must have been in operation prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Eligible activities include:

- Organization can utilize funding to support their business district in allowing outdoor dining to occur outdoors on a permanent scale to promote economic activity following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Funds can be utilized to build-out infrastructure for outdoor dining along the public right of way and private property where applicable, with the purpose of preventing or mitigating the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
- Organization can utilize funding to provide businesses smaller grants at their discretion
- Street closure, parking space utilization and sidewalk space are all eligible spaces for outdoor dining infrastructure to be established through this funding
- Design/Architect fees can be paid for through this grant
- Organizations that represent business districts in the City of Pittsburgh are welcome to be creative in submitting their proposed activities and are encouraged to contact URA staff prior to submitting their application to discuss proposed use of funds
- Businesses supported through this grant program must have been in existence prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **Parameters of the Grant**

**Tier 1** \$0-30,000 - no match

**Tier 2** \$30,000-60,000 – 10% match

**Tier 3** \$60,000-90,000 - 20% match

If the business district organization represents an Avenues of Hope Corridor, the match requirement will be reduced by 50%.

Matching funds can come from participating businesses in your business district, contact URA staff with questions.

## **Timeline**

Applications open June 1st, 2022 and close June 8th, 2022. A second round of applications will be announced at a later date.

## **Reporting**

Organization must provide the URA with quarterly updates including, but not limited to, project status, quarterly obligation amount, and quarterly expenditure amount.

## **Technical Assistance**

The Urban Redevelopment Authority will be contracting with a design, engineering, or architecture firm that will be available for organizations and businesses to assist with applying for permits, planning out infrastructure design, and answering questions throughout the duration of the program.

## **Waiver of Provisions**

The Board of Directors of the URA may waive certain provisions of these guidelines based on a determination of the private and public benefits of the project.

## **Notification**

URA reserves the right to:

- 1) Reject any and all applications.
- 2) Notify the appropriate community-based organization of applications received from businesses in their neighborhoods.
- 3) Announce all loan commitments publicly.

## **Additional Information**

For additional information, please contact Jamie Piotrowski at [jpiotrowski@ura.org](mailto:jpiotrowski@ura.org). You can also find more information on our website [here](#).