



'Open for Business' Grant Program Riverfront Downtown Urban Renewal Area

The Open for Business grant program is offered for the City of Salem's Riverfront Downtown Urban Renewal Area (RDURA) in response to the needs of businesses post COVID-19. As businesses transition into the recovery phase of the pandemic there is a need for permanent infrastructure improvements to be constructed in order to meet current and future safety protocols.

Program Objectives The goals of the Open for Business grant program are:

- Provide financial assistance to help businesses in the RDURA make permanent infrastructure improvements for projects as a result of the impacts of COVID-19.
- Provide financial assistance to help businesses in the RDURA create new permanent spaces for outdoor seating at food and beverage establishments.

Eligibility The following persons are eligible to apply and receive grant funds:

- Property owners of business that are located within the RDURA.
- Business owners of businesses that are located within the RDURA, with property owner consent.
- Tax exempt properties are not eligible.
- Properties that are 100% residential are not eligible.
- In-home offices are not grant eligible.

Eligible Improvements The following items are considered eligible expenses through this program:

- Design work for an eligible project that is from a licensed professional
- Construction of an outdoor dining platform (planters, string-lights, movable heaters or other movable items are not eligible)
- Install of permanent gas and/or electrical infrastructure for outdoor dining
- Permanent improvements constructed in the interior to meet current and future safety protocols due to COVID-19. Examples of these types of improvements include but are not limited to:
 - Reconfiguration of walls or interior layout to meet social distancing requirements
 - Improvements to mitigate interior building impacts related to COVID-19

Financing

- 50% match for eligible project costs
- Maximum grant amount is \$20,000.

General Conditions

- Approval of grant applications is contingent upon available funds.
- All projects shall conform to the design standards of the Development Code, other applicable regulations in the City of Salem Municipal Code, and the requirements of the Oregon State Building Codes.
- If applicable, Historic Design Review approval prior to grant commitment.
- Once an application is approved, the applicant will be required to enter into a Grant Commitment Agreement with the City.
- Additional conditions may be included with the grant approval.
- Grant program will sunset September 1, 2023.

This is an information-only document. For more information, please contact the Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Salem at 503-588-6178 or visit www.cityofsalem.net/financialresources. Si necesita ayuda para comprender esta información, por favor llame 503-588-6178.