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We work hard for you.

Good afternoon,

This has been a busy week with a number of important deadlines for your businesses coming up.

- June 9, 9am, NJ Economic Development Authority begins accepting applications for Emergency Grant, Phase 2 grants up to \$10,000 each. You need to be ready to apply immediately that morning. **Please tell businesses about this grant.**
- June 15, outdoor dining and non-essential retail opens, any restaurants or businesses that want to utilize public or private outdoor space must submit an application to the Borough and Borough approval is needed before they can start serving outside.
- June 17, Community Development Block Grant CARES Act Funding closes. You need to get your application in before then to be eligible for this funding.

Please feel free to contact me at any time to assist you or your business. My cell is 313-268-4356 and the best way to reach me.

Isaac D. Kremer  
Executive Director  
Metuchen Downtown Alliance

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### **Metuchen Outdoor Dining and Retail Program**

In anticipation of outdoor dining and retail sales resuming on June 15, the Borough is granting temporary exception to existing ordinances to permit use of various public and private spaces throughout the Borough for outdoor dining, retail, and service use. Options

include expanded use of public sidewalks, public parking, public streets, and private spaces. In collaboration with the Metuchen Downtown Alliance (MDA) and the Metuchen Area Chamber of Commerce, the Borough has created guidelines for the Outdoor Dining and Retail program. The guidelines, online application, and a video describing the program **may be found here**.

## **New Jersey EDA Emergency Funding, June 9 at 9am**

On May 22nd, the NJEDA Board approved an additional \$45 million in funding to small businesses from the **State's federal CARES Act allocation**. The maximum grant amount is \$10,000. More businesses are eligible to apply in Phase 2 and no NAICS code is required. In the first round 19 Metuchen businesses received \$61,000. In order to apply for this funding here is what you need to do.

1. Immediately review the **Grant Program Application**.
2. Gather all the information you need to complete the application and have it ready to quickly fill out.
3. On Tuesday, June 9, be at your computer and ready 15 minutes before the application opens at 9:00am. That way you can be among the first businesses to fill out the application and submit it to increase your chances for getting funding.

Application will be available at **<https://cv.business.nj.gov>**

## **Community Development Block Grant CARES Act Funding**

To assist local small businesses during the coronavirus pandemic, Middlesex County is introducing a Small Business Grant program utilizing federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CARES Act funding. The County intends to award a total of \$1,062,260 in grants for job retention and creation through the CDBG-CV funds for this special economic development program under HUD (United States Department of Housing and Urban Development) guidelines. This program will be administered by the Middlesex County Department of Community Services. Those eligible to apply for grants can do so at the new Small Business Grants Portal on our County website, **[www.middlesexcountynj.gov/COVID19businessgrants](http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/COVID19businessgrants)**.

The primary purpose of the CDBG-CV program is to prepare, prevent, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in order to develop viable communities through the provision of housing, living environments, and the expansion of economic opportunities. The program is designed to target assistance to those in low and moderate-income households. Grants of up to \$30,000 may be available. The individual grant amount will be based on application review and the number of applicants.

## **Paycheck Protection Program**

This week Congress passed the Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act, which will make it easier for small business owners who have received a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan to qualify for loan forgiveness. Some key changes include an extension from the 8 week forgiveness period to a 24 week forgiveness period, a decrease in the minimum amount that must be spent on payroll from 75% to 60%, an increased loan maturity from two years to five years for new PPP loans and an extended deadline to rehire staff. We encourage you to reach out to our regional **Small Business Development at Rutgers University** to guide you through the application process. A number of Metuchen businesses have done so and already have benefited.

## **Additional Resources**

- **Coronavirus Information for New Jersey Businesses**
- **Main Street America Covid-19 Resources**
- **Small Business Development Center, Resources for Small Businesses**
- **Small Business Majority, Daily Updates for Small Businesses**
- **Reopen Main Street**

See What's Happening Downtown

