Memorandum



January 31, 2025

Honorable Members of the City Council Economic Development Committee: Tennell Atkins (Chair), Omar Narvaez (Vice Chair), Carolyn King Arnold, Chad West, Adam Bazaldua, Paul Ridley, and Kathy Stewart

SUBJECT Update: Small Business Microgrants Program

On February 28, 2024, City Council authorized the Small Business Microgrants Program Statement and allocated \$230,000 from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (ARPA funds) to this initiative through Resolution No. 24-0379. The Microgrants Program was designed to provide financial assistance of up to \$5,000 to eligible small businesses in Dallas that experienced negative economic impacts or disproportionate impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Application and eligibility criteria included several factors, such as being a Dallas-based for-profit business, having demonstrated negative COVID-19 impact between March 3, 2021 and September 20, 2024 (unless located in an ARPA Qualified Census Tract), being a business that is officially registered with the Texas Secretary of State, and being a business that was in existence on or before March 1, 2018. Eligible uses for the Microgrant Program funds include operational expenses, capital investments such as commercial property rehabilitation or storefront improvements, and costs associated with business expansion.

The Microgrants Program was proposed and managed by the City's Small Business Center (SBC) and opened for applications on March 5, 2024. Applications were accepted on a rolling basis. SBC received 60 applications.

On August 1, 2024, following the dissolution of the SBC, the 60 applications were transferred to the Office of Economic Development (OED), and OED closed the application portal. After a thorough review and administrative processing of each application, OED staff, in consultation with the City Attorney's Office, awarded microgrants to 21 small businesses, distributing a total of \$105,000 of the allocated funds. Staff's evaluation of one application is still pending.

A list of the small businesses that received a funding award is attached to this memo as **Exhibit A**. A list of the small businesses that did not receive a funding award is attached to this memo as **Exhibit B**. Applicants were most commonly ruled ineligible for a funding award due to not being in business prior to March 1, 2018, not being responsive to staff's multiple attempts to contact the business, inability to prove being a Dallas-based business, and failing to demonstrate a negative impact from COVID-19.

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Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Heather Lepeska, Assistant Director, Office of Economic Development, at heather.lepeska@dallas.gov or (214) 670-1222.

Service First, Now!

Robin Bentley

C:

Assistant City Manager (I)

Kimberly Bizor Tolbert, City Manager Tammy Palomino, City Attorney Mark Swann, City Auditor Bilierae Johnson, City Secretary Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge Dominique Artis, Chief of Public Safety Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager (I)
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Elizabeth Saab, Chief of Strategy, Engagement, and Alignment (I)
Directors and Assistant Directors

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EXHIBIT A

Microgrant Awards

Business Name	Address	City Council District	Date of Award	Award Amount
AquaGreen Global, LLC	810 E. Jefferson Blvd.	1	8/2/2024	\$5,000
Bellcam Group, LLC	14017 Brookgreen Dr.	11	8/3/2024	\$5,000
Bello Bath & Body, LLC	1147 E Pentagon Pkwy.	4	8/5/2024	\$5,000
Ojeda's Restaurant, Inc	4617 Maple Ave.	2	8/2/2024	\$5,000
The Panama Canal Tours (Miraflores), LLC	6060 N. Central Expy.	9	8/2/2024	\$5,000
Plai Place, LLC	4428 Main Street	2	8/2/2024	\$5,000
Trend Health Care, Inc	11110 Petal Street	10	8/2/2024	\$5,000
WRLW, Inc DBA White Rock Lake Weekly	13340 Pandora Cir.	9	8/4/2024	\$5,000
Counseling Connection Dallas PLLC	4514 Cole Ave.	14	8/23/2024	\$5,000
Perpetual Motion Studios, LLC	919 Morrell Ave	4	8/23/2024	\$5,000
LCI Group L3C (LCI Media L3C)	3044 Luxar Way	3	8/29/2024	\$5,000
Dallas Fades Barbershop LLC	124 N Peak St.	2	9/12/2024	\$5,000
Guiding Minds Ministries LLC	1910 Pacific Ave	14	9/13/2024	\$5,000
Turtle Creek Construction, Inc	4856 Don Drive	6	10/16/2024	\$5,000
Underground Support Services, LLC	7909 Roundrock Rd	11	10/18/2024	\$5,000
City Futsal LLC	1224 S Cesar Chavez Blvd	2	10/22/2024	\$5,000
Parrish Business Services, LLC DBA Dallas Diversity 24/7	521 Heyser Drive	1	11/15/2024	\$5,000
Le Rouge Cuisine	3116 Sylvan Ave	6	11/18/2024	\$5,000
The "Beloved Community" Consulting Group	3227 Goldspier Dr	7	11/22/2024	\$5,000
Dallas Metro Couriers	13848 Rolling Hills Ln	11	12/12/2024	\$5,000
Catering Done Wisely, LLC	2800 Park Row Ave	7	1/9/2025	\$5,000

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EXHIBIT B

Microgrant Applicants

Business Name	City Council District	Status
AquaGreen Global, LLC	1	Approved
Parrish Business Services, LLC	1	Approved
Plai Place LLC	2	Approved
Ojeda's Restaurant Inc.	2	Approved
Nikki Smith Designs	2	Not Eligible
Dental Solutions	2	Not Eligible
K.A. Classics	2	Not Eligible
City Futsal LLC.	2	Approved
John Lynch DBA Texas Goods Company	2	Not Eligible
DFW Dawg Life, LLC	2	Not Eligible
Dallas Fades Barbershop LLC	2	Approved
Saltus Training Group LLC	2	Not Eligible
Amy's Treasures	2	Not Eligible
LCI Group	3	Approved
Hollywood Janitorial & Restroom Supplies LLC	3	Not Eligible
Perpetual Motion Studios LLC	4	Approved
Bello Bath & Body, LLC	4	Approved
Sir4ourth Enterprises	4	Not Eligible
Caldwell Industries	4	Not Eligible
DevPro Commercial Contractors, Inc.	4	Not Eligible
Ruby Media Inc	6	Not Eligible
Frida's Tacolandia	6	Not Eligible
Turtle Creek Construction, Inc.	6	Approved
Dallas Event Floral LLC DBA Metka floral Design	6	Not Eligible
Perfect Trading	6	Not Eligible
Rainbow Snow LLC	6	Not Eligible
Le Rouge Cuisine Food Company	6	Approved
Problem Property Solutions LLC	6	Not Eligible
Kingdom Legacy Company	7	Not Eligible
Vinty Clothing LLC	7	Not Eligible
Catering Done Wisely	7	Approved
Beloved Community Consulting Group	7	Approved
Dreads By Dotie	7	Not Eligible
Wesley Property Management Services	8	Not Eligible

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Street Runner Podcast	8	Not Eligible	
The Panama Canal Tours (Miraflores), LLC	9	Approved	
WRLW, Inc. dba White Rock Lake Weekly	9	Approved	
Trend Health Care INC	10	Approved	
Squarehaus	10	Not Eligible	
Babylon Business Solutions, LLC	10	Not Eligible	
Underground Support Services, LLC	11	Approved	
Bellcam Group	11	Approved	
Dallas Metro Couriers Inc	11	Approved	
Edie Hernandez Putt, PsyD, LPC	11	Not Eligible	
Sundrop Gardens Landscaping LLC	12	Not Eligible	
Royal Treatment MedSpa	13	Not Eligible	
Guiding Minds Counseling and Treatment Center	14	Approved	
The Color Agent	14	Not Eligible	
Counseling Connection Dallas, PLLC	14	Approved	
Uptown Discovery Group	14	Pending	
The it Crowd	14	Not Eligible	
Anointed12Academy (2nd Application)	14	Not Eligible	
3H Greens LLC	OUT	Not Eligible	
Far West Helping Foundation Corp	OUT	Not Eligible	
Awesome Technologies Inc.	OUT	Not Eligible	
Kirstins Care LLC	OUT	Not Eligible	
Ivy Financial Consultants	OUT	Not Eligible	
Anointed12Academy, LLC	OUT	Not Eligible	
Miri Indu Living Herbals LLC	OUT	Not Eligible	
M & M R Construction LLC	OUT	Not Eligible	