

# LOANS, GRANTS & INCENTIVES FOR NEW & EXPANDING BUSINESSES

# **LOANS & GRANTS**

### **E-Commerce Business Assistance Grant Program**

Established to help Small, Women and Minority-owned private for profit businesses grow revenues and jobs through e-Commerce. The award is up to \$2,500 for most businesses and up to \$4,500 for small, women and minority-owned businesses. The grant is not to exceed 50% of the total project cost.

### Façade Improvement Grant (FIG) Program

Created to restore, sustain, and improve commercial properties over 15 years old. Provides matching grant funds, up to a maximum of \$20,000, to assist with eligible façade improvements on properties used for commercial, industrial, office or mixed-use purposes. Eligible improvements include awning installation, exterior lighting, hardscape improvements, and more.

### **Newport News Capital Fund (NNCF)**

Designed to provide loan opportunities from \$5,000 to \$250,000 for local businesses without sufficient financing from private lenders. Loans are targeted to businesses that create jobs and help to mitigate effects of defense cutbacks in Newport News. Requires a 1:1 match with private funds and no more than 25% of a loan can be used for working capital.

# **Newport News Micro-Loan Program (NNML)**

Designed to provide loan opportunities for the establishment, stabilization or expansion of small micro-enterprises with lack of access to capital. Loan amounts range from \$2,000 to \$25,000 with a maximum term of 5 years. Interest rates are fixed for the term of the loan. The loan program has flexible payment terms and a 10% equity requirement.

# Newport News Urban Development Action Grant Loan Program (NNUDAG)

Supports businesses making taxable investments within the City and providing job opportunities for low and moderate-

income persons. The minimum loan amount is \$10,000 and the amount of funds is tied to the number of jobs created. There is a 1:1 private funds match for NNUDAG funds and no more than 20% of the NNUDAG loan may be used for inventory and working capital.

### Partnership for Advancing Certification Training (PACT) Grant Program

Developed to provide support of up to \$30,000, to private businesses establishing new, innovative workforce development solutions in partnership with the Virginia Community College System or with any of Virginia's public colleges and universities. This funding is intended to provide local assistance for in-kind contributions made by a business supporting the establishment of training programs which address documented workforce needs.

# **Peninsula Revolving Loan Fund (PRLF)**

Fixed-asset and working capital, direct loan program to businesses that will create new employment opportunities. No more than 40% of the loan may be used for working capital. Loan amounts can range from \$5,000 to \$150,000. Requires a 1:1 private funds match.

# **Tax-Exempt & Taxable Industrial Revenue Bond (IRBs)**

Issued by the Newport News Economic / Industrial Development Authority, subject to the approval of bond counsel and, for tax-exempt IRBs, the availability of a state allocation. Typically, IRBs are used for long-term financing of fixed assets of at least \$1,000,000.

# **COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT (CRPTA)**

Intended to attract rehabilitation of commercial & industrial buildings by reducing the post-rehab real estate tax on improvements for 5 years. Buildings must be 20 years old, 15 in Enterprise Zones. Qualified rehab costs must equal at least 20% of the assessed value of the improvements prior to rehab. Amount eligible for abatement is equal to 50% of the qualified rehab costs.

# **TECHNOLOGY ZONES**

A program offering incentives to encourage the development of commercial and industrial businesses engaged in technological research, design and manufacturing.

# **Business, Professional & Occupation License (BPOL) Tax Abatement**

For businesses in energy development, modeling and simulation, photonics, nanotechnology, aerospace industries, and R&D. Provides BPOL abatement over 10 years. Requires 25 jobs with annual minimum salary of 150% of the average prevailing wage.

# **Energy and Defense Infrastructure Grant**

For manufacturing in support of non-carbon based energy production or defense weapons systems currently not being produced in Newport News. Incentive is equal to 0.5% of net new taxable investment annually for 4 years. Requires 100 jobs paying above prevailing wage and a \$25 million taxable investment.

# **TOURISM ZONES**

Intended to attract investment in designated commercial areas. New & expanding businesses in these zones seeking to attract customers from outside the City and meeting minimum eligibility requirements may qualify for a reduction, or waiver, of Business, Professional, & Occupation License (BPOL) taxes and/or performance grants based on tax revenue from meals, lodging, admissions, and local sales tax.

# **VIRGINIA ENTERPRISE ZONES**

A state and local partnership offering incentives to companies and investors to stimulate job creation and private investment in certain areas of the City.

### **Expansion/Relocation Cost Reduction Incentive (ERCR)**

A grant equal to 50% of the net new local taxes generated over 6 years from land, real property improvements, machinery and tools, and business personal property. To be eligible, businesses must create a minimum of 25 new full-time jobs, invest at least \$2.5 million, and be in a target industry.

# Job Creation Grant (JCG)

A cash grant up to \$800 per year for 5 years for each newly created qualifying job, in excess of the minimum threshold. The minimum threshold is 4. Personal service, retail and food & beverage positions are not eligible.

### **Partial Refund of Taxes**

A partial refund of Business, Professional, & Occupational License (BPOL) taxes and local utility (gas & electric) taxes for qualifying businesses for up to 10 years.

# **Real Property Investment Grant (RPIG)**

A cash grant for investment in new construction or rehabilitation of commercial, industrial and/or mixed-use buildings. Minimum investment thresholds are \$500,000 for new construction & \$100,000 for rehabilitation.

# **ADDITIONAL FEDERAL INCENTIVES PROGRAMS**

# **Historically Underutilized Business Zones (HUBZones)**

Program providing federal contracting preferences to qualified businesses located in and hiring employees from the 10 Newport News census tracts designated as HUBZones.

### **Opportunity Zones**

Program offering investors tax benefits on current unrealized capital gains by investing those gains in the 7 Newport News Census Tracts designated as Opportunity Zones.



