



## BENBROOK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

### **BEDC DISASTER RELIEF GRANT** *BUSINESS APPLICATION*

**T**he Benbrook Economic Development Corporation (BEDC) promotes a diverse and vital economy by attracting new business, retaining and supporting existing businesses, facilitating desired development, and by promoting Benbrook to new residents and visitors.

On March 16, 2020, Benbrook Mayor Jerry Dittrich signed a declaration of local disaster in response to the March 11, 2020 World Health Organization (WHO) declaration of a pandemic related to the COVID-19 virus, and the March 13, 2020 State of Texas proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state; and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas, signed by Governor Greg Abbott.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, federal, state, and local governmental entities and other organizations have initiated legislation and programs designed to assist small businesses who have been negatively impacted by stay-at-home orders and subsequent loss of income.

Many Texas cities and economic development corporations are crafting programs tailored to the needs of their business community. In support of Benbrook's existing small businesses, and as aligned with their mission, the BEDC is offering a **BEDC Disaster Relief Grant** to eligible businesses that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The **BEDC Disaster Relief Grant** program is solely intended to assist Benbrook commercial (retail/service/office) small businesses by funding mortgage and lease payments due. The grant will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis, until grant funds are depleted, or as determined otherwise by the BEDC board.

The goal of the program is to provide financial assistance in the form of a one-time, one-month mortgage or lease payment, up to \$5,000 per eligible local business. BEDC reserves the right to review and approve an applicants' eligibility for a second month of mortgage/rental assistance, by making available any remainder of the \$5,000 original cap per business, and assuming all other eligibility criteria applies. A single business will not be eligible to receive more than a total of two months mortgage/lease grant assistance under this program and no more than \$5,000 total per business. (See **Eligibility Criteria** in **Section I** below).

## I. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to participate in the **BEDC Disaster Relief Grant** program, a business must meet **all of** the criteria listed below (A-K):

- A. Be a storefront commercial (retail sales, service, or office) business within the city limits of Benbrook, Texas.
- B. Currently be making mortgage or lease/rent payments for the business.
- C. Have a financial need as a result of lost revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- D. Employ no more than 100 people.
- E. At the time of grant application, have received no funding from the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act* - Small Business Administration (SBA) Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).
- F. Not be a home-based business.
- G. Have been in operation in Benbrook prior to January 1, 2020.
- H. Have no outstanding code violations.
- I. Be in good standing, and up-to-date on all property taxes owed.
- J. Agree to provide requested mortgage/lease documentation to confirm current arrangement and verify the amount of mortgage/lease payment due.
- K. Agree to provide requested documentation to verify that **BEDC Disaster Relief Grant** assistance was used to pay mortgage/lease payments, per the terms of the mortgage/lease documentation provided.

BEDC reserves the right to request additional documentation as needed to confirm eligibility.

