# WE WELCOME YOUR BUSINESS TO HIGHLANDTOWN

Greetings from Highlandtown, home of Highlandtown Main Street, Highlandtown Business Association, and Highlandtown Arts & Entertainment District! Inside this packet you will find useful information for your business.

In the right pocket, your will find details about the Facade Grant Program, which can help pay for 50% of exterior work done on your building including signs, awnings, windows, doors, and more! There are also additional tips on Baltimore City's rules and regulations for building maintinence and improvements, as well as a sample permit.

In the left pocket, behind this page, you will find loan information and business resources and incentives. There are also several brochures about the Highlandtown community, including the Highlandtown Visitor's Guide with a full business directory and listing of annual events.

Thank you for locating your business in Highlandtown and we look forward to working with you!







## HIGHLANDTOWN



One of the most culturally diverse areas in Baltimore City, Highlandtown Main Street boasts an eclectic mix of retail, art and restaurant spaces that cater to over 250,000 visitors annually. Stretching 10 blocks of Eastern Avenue, the Main Street offers everyday amenities, like grocery stores, a library, and law and medical offices, and boasts the city's finest art and restaurant destinations.

Food enthusiasts come to Highlandtown Main Street to find truly authentic international cuisine DiPasquale's Italian



Marketplace and Chicken Rico. Many of our restaurants have won local and national acclaim, showing up on the Food Network and "Best of" Lists.

Highlandtown Main Street bisects two of Southeast Baltimore's hottest neighborhoods: Canton and Highlandtown. It's convenient to downtown Baltimore, easily accessible from I-95, I-895, steps from Patterson Park and a few blocks from Johns Hopkins Bayview medical campus, with 4,400+ employees.



Top left to right: *BUS* sculpture sits next to Creative Alliance; Highlandtown Gallery serves coffee and artists; High Grounds Coffee Roasters brews coffee locally in Highlandtown; *Bailes De Mi Tierra* performs at Southeast Anchor Library; Artist Ezra Berger paints a neighborhood mural at High Grounds; *Vitamin* design and marketing boutique reaches clients throughout the mid-Atlantic from Highlandtown; and Chicken Rico's sign beacons hungry lunch-goers.

ENTERPRISE ZONE INVESTMENT



REVITAL IZATION

, Contact: Kristina Williams I Economic Development Officer I kwilliams@BaltimoreDevelopment.com 36 S. Charles Street, Suite 1600, Baltimore, MD 21201 I Tel 410-837-9305 I Fax 410-837-6363 I www.BaltimoreDevelopment.com

MAIN STREET

INITIATIVE

## HIGHLANDTOWN

<u>POPULATIO</u> N	<u>0</u>	<u>-0.5 MI.</u>		<u>0-1 MI.</u>	<u>(</u>	<u>0-3 MI.</u>	
Population		12,553		36,267		193,167	
Male		6,446		18,301		95,793	
Female		6,107		17,966		97,374	
Age 25-44		5,866		15,809		69,414	
Bachelor's or Higher		2,735		8,476		37,273	
	7.11.12						
HOUSEHOLDS	<u>(н</u> н)	5,421		14,903		79,661	
Households		2.31		2.42		2.31	
Avg HH Size		60%		55%		46%	
OwnerOcc.		0070		0070		4070	
INCOME	•	-	•		•	~~~~~	
Average HH	\$	71,236	\$	74,291	\$	60,208	
Median HH	\$	52,738	\$	53,065	\$	41,502	
CONSUMER EXPENDITURES (\$ THOUSANDS							
Food at Home	\$	27,432	\$	77,209	\$	387,381	
Food away from Home	\$	16,408	\$	44,958	\$	208,891	
	Ψ	10,400	Ψ	44,000	Ψ	200,001	
Household Furnishings & Appliances	\$	13,525	\$	37,523	\$	178,554	
Sports &							
Entertainment	\$	25,570	\$	72,377	\$	334,223	
Apparel	\$	20,546	\$	58,949	\$	278,919	
OPPORTUNITY GAP							
All Retail Incl.							
Eating & Drinking Places	<b>\$</b> 7	5,193,226	\$23	31,001,511	\$51	1,685,876	
Furniture &							
Home Furnishings	\$ 4	4,079,060	\$	10,081,537	\$3	8,551,781	
Electronics &							
Appliances	\$ 3	3,109,430	\$	8,245,492	\$3	8,421,923	
Building Material,							
Garden Equipment	¢ 1	6,360,566	¢	25 174 107	¢11	5 505 <b>22</b> 7	
Supermarkets		7,720,799)	э. \$	35,174,197 7,314,797		5,505,237 0,519,311	
•	φ(1	,120,199)	φ	7,314,797	φθ	0,519,511	
Health & Personal Care	\$	1,484,666	\$	10,131,883	\$1	1,357,765	
Clothing		7,631,872		25,027,723		3,910,824	
Sporting Goods, Etc.	\$	3,992,236	\$	11,297,946	\$4	3,852,841	
Genl. Merchandise	\$ 2	5,561,414	\$ 7	73,778,180	\$31	7,939,587	
Full Service		, <b>·</b> ···	÷ 1	.,,	֥1	,,	
Restaurants	\$ (2	2,309,566)	\$(1	8,455,505)	\$(20	6,979,966)	
<u>EMPLOYMEN</u> T							
Workplace		3,960		12,852		187,839	
-							







Top to bottom: Annual Holiday Kick-Off & Tree Lighting on Conkling Plaza; Small Business Saturday Breakfast outside Hoehn's Bakery; Annual district wide Trick-O'-Treat on Highlandtown Main Street community party.

WALK SCORE 90 VERY WALKABLE AVERAGE ANNUAL WEEKDAY DAILY TRAFFIC COUNT EASTERN AVENUE: 23,430 .................

## SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAMS

Resources to provide assistance in accessing loans to help your business begin, grow, and expand

### **Baltimore Micro Loan Fund (Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC))**

Kristina E. Williams, Small/Minority Business Ombudsman

36 S. Charles St. – Suite 2100, Baltimore, MD 21201-3015

Office: 410-837-9305 | Direct: 410-779-3833 | Fax: 410-837-6363 | <u>kwilliams@baltimoredevelopment.com</u>

http://baltimoredevelopment.com/loans/

The Baltimore Micro Loan Fund provides existing and start-up small businesses with financing for working capital, furniture, fixtures, machinery, and equipment. Loan amounts are between \$5,000 to \$30,000, with the objective of stimulating employment, assisting small businesses in obtaining fixed rate financing, and to encourage private sector investment in Baltimore City.

### Small Business Loan (Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC))

Rodrigo Cordon and Jonathan Reyes, *Small Business Lending Officers* 10 E. North Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 Rodrigo: 202.352.3373 direct | 800.668.0469 fax | <u>rcordon@ledcmetro.org</u> Jonathan: 443-708-7054 direct | 800.668.0469 fax | <u>jreyes@ledcmetro.org</u>

### www.ledcmetro.org

As a certified **Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI)**, LEDC provides microloans (up to \$50,000) to start-up and existing businesses that have difficulty obtaining credit from mainstream financial institutions. LEDC is committed to helping business owners improve their consumer credit score, and assess the financial tools they need to grow and expand their business.

### MCE Micro Loans and Small Business Loans (Maryland Capital Enterprises)

Office: 410-546-1900 | info@marylandcapital.org

http://www.marylandcapital.org/services/business-loans

Loans for businesses that employ fewer than 10 people, need \$35,000 or less in capital and do not have access to traditional lending sources such as banks. MCE also provides technical support to businesses. In addition MCE provides micro-loans up to \$50,000 to individual entrepreneurs as well as small business loans up to \$250,000

### Baltimore Energy Initiative Loan Program (Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc.)

Rahn Barnes, Manager, Loan & Grant Programs

Tel: 410-332-0387 ext. 154 | rbarnes@healthyneighborhoods.org

**The Baltimore Energy Initiative** loan program provides low-interest loans to non-profit and for-profit small businesses for energy projects costing less than \$150,000. Eligible projects could include energy efficient HVAC, lighting, appliances, or equipment.

### Neighborhood BusinessWorks Loan Program (NBW)

Michael J. Haloskey III, Director, Business Lending Programs

Division of Neighborhood Revitalization, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Tel. 410-514-7237 | <u>haloskey@mdhousing.org</u> | <u>http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Business/Pages/NBW.aspx</u> Program Fact Sheet: <u>http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Business/Documents/NBW/NBWFact\_Sheet.pdf</u> *The Neighborhood BusinessWorks* loan program provides gap financing (up to \$500,000), i.e. subordinate financing, to new or expanding small businesses and nonprofit organizations in <u>Sustainable Communities</u> throughout the State.

### Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program (Small Commercial Tax Credit)

Megan Klem, Preservation Officer with Maryland Historic Trust

Tel: 410-514-7688 | megan.klem@maryland.gov | http://mht.maryland.gov/taxcredits\_small\_commercial.shtml Credits for small commercial properties that will help fund modest rehabilitation projects such as roof repair and façade restoration. Eligible projects may receive a state income tax credit up to 20 percent of qualified rehabilitation expenditures. Small commercial rehabilitations cannot exceed \$500,000 in expenses, and the credit is capped at \$50,000 in a 24-month period.



## **BUSINESS CLASSES AND SUPPORT**

Resources to provide assistance in moving your business forward and planning for your business

### Small Business Resource Center (SBRC)

James Peterson, BLocal Outreach Coordinator 1101 E. 33rd Street, Suite C307 (Hopkins At Eastern) Baltimore, Maryland 21218 Tel. (443) 451-7160 | Fax. (443) 451-7169 | Email: jpeterson@sbrcbaltimore.com <u>http://www.sbrcbaltimore.com/</u> At the Small Business Resource Center you can learn more about starting your own business, preparing a business plan, getting credit, business taxes and regulatory responsibilities, networking, and much more.

### Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC)

Omar Velasco Small Business Coach and Trainer 3500 Boston Street, Suite 317. Baltimore, Maryland 21224 443.708.7035 office | 202.300.6179 mobile | <u>ovelasco@ledcmetro.org</u> www.ledcmetro.org

### **Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC)**

Kristina Williams & Mica Fetz

36 S. Charles Street, Suite 1600 Baltimore, MD 21201 410-837-9305

### For loan programs, tax credits, and more from BDC:

http://baltimoredevelopment.com/incentives/

Baltimore Development Corporation can help you find a location for your business, find a tenant for your property, and connect you to loan programs, tax credit information, and more!

### **Greater Baltimore SCORE**

Baltimore Office: 443-451-7160

Email: baltimorescore@verizon.net

https://greaterbaltimore.score.org/

Baltimore SCORE provides free and confidential business mentoring tailored to meet the needs of your small business. Whether you are just starting a business or expanding an established business, SCORE mentors are here to help you succeed.

### **BGE SEED Program**

Office: 1-877-685-7377 | economicdevelopment@bge.com | business@bgesmartenergy.com https://www.bge.com/DoingBusinessWithUs/Pages/EconomicIncentives.aspx BGE's SEED Program offers eligible commercial customers:

A 25% reduction on electric and natural gas distribution and demand charges

A 75% discount on service extension costs (for businesses that are located in a Maryland enterprise zone)

### <u>Kiva</u>

 Ty Alston, Kiva Baltimore Lead

 858-336-7475
 tya@kiva.org
 www.kivaUShub.org/what-is-kiva

 Kiva.org is where small businesses crowdsource 0% interest micro loans! To learn more, visit www.kivaUShub.org/what-is-kiva



### **Small Business Lending Program**

As a certified **Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI)**, LEDC provides microloans to start-up and existing businesses that have difficulty obtaining credit from mainstream financial institutions. LEDC is committed to helping business owners improve their consumer credit score, and assess the financial tools they need to grow and expand their business.

### What documents are needed to apply for a loan?\*

- 1) LEDC intake form
- 2) Credit report (pulled in house)
- 3) Personal and business bank statements (most recent 3 months)
- 4) Personal and business tax returns (last two years)
- 5) Business Income Statement
- 6) Personal and business balance sheet
- 7) Collateral
- 8) Lease, if applicable
- 9) References
- 10) Articles of Incorporation

\*Additional documentation may be required depending on the size and purpose of the loan.

### Are there any fees?

**Yes.** There is one fee that is 3% of the loan amount for closed loans. For example, a \$6,000 loan would have a fee of \$180, which would be paid at the time of closing. There is also a \$50 application fee that includes one credit report.

### What are the terms and interest rate of LEDC's loans?

LEDC offers fully amortized, fixed installment loans. Interest rates range between 9-14 percent, based on your credit score. Terms vary between 6 months – 5 years, depending on the business owner's capacity to repay the loan.

What is the average size of an LEDC loan? LEDC offers loans of up to \$50,000, with our average size loan around \$15,000. For LEDC clients in good standing that would like to apply for second loan with LEDC, \$50,000 is the maximum amount a client may have outstanding at a given time.

### How long will the application process take?

Once the loan officer has all the required documents, loans up to \$20,000 are typically approved or denied in approximately two weeks. Loans over \$20,000 require the approval of a loan committee, and therefore take closer to 3-4 weeks to process.

### What factors does LEDC look at to determine whether or not a loan is approved?

As a non-profit loan fund, LEDC takes a holistic and comprehensive approach to evaluating potential loan clients. LEDC looks at many factors, such as strength of the business model, number of years of experience, collateral, owner equity contribution, payment capacity, credit score, and references.

### Are there any types of businesses that cannot apply for a loan?

Yes. Any business engaged in illegal activities or the sale of sexual-oriented goods or services, liquor stores, real estate and speculative investments are ineligible for LEDC loans. Contact an LEDC loan officer for more information.

### Are there any negative credit factors that make an applicant ineligible?

Yes. If an applicant owes back taxes to the state or the IRS, has not paid any court judgments or outstanding child support, or has declared bankruptcy in the last year, he or she will not qualify for a loan. Contact an LEDC loan officer for more information.

### For what purposes can LEDC loans be used?

LEDC loans are fixed, installment loans that can be used for working capital, equipment, inventory, advertising and marketing, etc.

#### Is there a minimum credit score necessary to apply for a micro-loan?

**No.** LEDC does not have a minimum credit score requirement. However, the content of the credit report is very important. The applicant must be on-time with their monthly debt payments and have no current collections or public records.

### LEDC Contact Information:

Website: <u>www.ledcmetro.org</u>

DC Office: 2316 18<sup>th</sup> Street NW Washington, DC 20009 MD Office: 2405 Price Avenue Wheaton, MD 20902

### Small Business Lending Officers:

### Rodrigo Cordon

Small Business Lending Officer Latino Economic Development Center MD Office: 10 E. North Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21202 443.708.7054 office|202.352.3373 direct www.ledcmetro.org |866.977.LEDC

### **Jonathan Reyes**

Small Business Lending Officer Latino Economic Development Center MD Office: 10 E. North Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21202 443.708.7054 office|410.929.4021 direct www.ledcmetro.org |866.977.LEDC



Mailing address: P.O. Box 213 Salisbury, MD 21803 **Office locations:** Salisbury, Maryland Baltimore, Maryland Tel: 410-546-1900 Fax: 410-546-9718 www.marylandcapital.org



### **MCE Statistics**

### MCE's accomplishments since 2000:

- 1,500 clients counseled
- 1,510 individuals received one-on-one technical assistance
- 2,815 individuals received business training
- 400 loan applications
- 230 loans made totaling \$4.6 million

### **Interesting Facts**

For every business MCE helps, at least 2 jobs are being created

Owners with paid workers report median owner's draw 20 times higher than businesses without paid workers

### **MCE Micro Business Loans**

Maryland Capital Enterprises, Inc. (MCE) provides small business loans to businesses located in Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset, Dorchester, Talbot, Caroline, Queen Anne's and Kent Counties on Maryland's Eastern Shore as well as Baltimore City, Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties.

Applicants must be sole proprietors, partnerships, corporations, or LLCs

- Loans for any amount from \$5,000 to \$150,000
- Up to 10 years
- Interest rates 5% 12%
- \$75 Non-refundable Application Fee
- 1% closing fee of the loan amount
- \$250 \$1,000 Legal Reserve Fee
- \$10 Credit Report Fee per applicant (non- refundable)
- MCE will conduct semi-annual site visits to your business
- No costs or penalties for early repayment
- Security is required.

Applicants can also apply for a **Credit Builder Loan**. The purpose of this program is to provide small businesses with an alternative to using high interest credit cards for paying business related expenses and to provide small businesses with a method of improving their credit.

Applicants must be sole proprietors, partnerships or corporations, or LLCs

- Loans for any amount from \$500 to \$4,999
- Up to 3 years
- Interest rates will depend on the risk and the amount of the loan
- \$50 Non-refundable Application Fee
- \$10 Credit Report Fee per applicant (non-refundable)
- \$50 Closing Fee for underwriting
- MCE will conduct semi-annual site visits to your business
- Security may be required.

For more info see our website.

## Helping Entrepreneurs SUCCEPTED

Maryland Capital Enterprises (MCE) provides funding for small and micro businesses who wish to start or expand their businesses. We are the only micro-enterprise organization in the state of Maryland certified as an SBA, USDA and CDFI Intermediary Lender.

We offer businesses access to the resources they need to start or grow their business: business loans, education and consulting.

MCE is funded through federal and state grants, as well as private contributions, foundation funding and fundraising efforts.

**Our Mission** - We empower businesses to grow, create jobs, and generate wealth on Maryland's Eastern Shore and across the state.

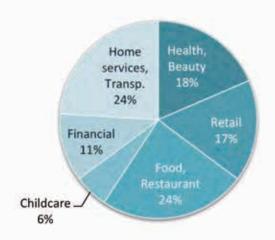
### **MCE** Achievements Over the Past 12 Years

- 1,500 clients counseled
- 1,510 individuals received one-on-one technical assistance
- 2,815 individuals received business training
- 400 loan applications
- 170 loans made totaling \$4.2 million

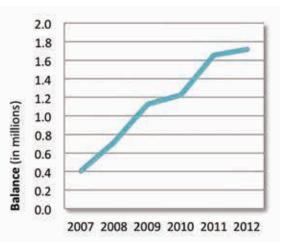


"Without MCE, Pemberton Coffeehouse would be a dream that never came true! Thanks to the entire office in Salisbury, we are proud to say that Pemberton Coffeehouse is a real working coffeehouse providing quality service to our community".

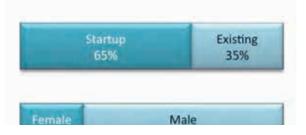
### BUSINESSES IN OUR LOAN PORTFOLIO



### MCE'S TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOAN PORTFOLIO SIZE



### A SNAPSHOT OF OUR CLIENTS





### Baltimore Energy Initiative Loan Program

www.EnergyLoansBEI.org













### Baltimore Energy Initiative

The City of Baltimore was awarded funding by the Maryland Public Service Commission's Customer Investment Fund for energy efficiency. The City Energy Office is partnering with two local non-profit organizations - The Reinvestment Fund and Healthy Neighborhoods to provide low-interest loans to non-profit and for-profit sma businesses that support a strong, stable and growing future for Baltimore. Healthy Neighborhoods will be providing loans for energy projects costing less than \$150,000 and The Reinvestment Fund will be financing energy project costs costing \$150,000 and above

Experience shows that building owners can make cost-effective energy improvements that will improve comfort, lower utility bills and benefit the environment. The mission of the Baltimore Energy In tiative Loan Program is to help building owners understand, finance an implement a range of energy measures to reduce energy waste in their buildings.

This document and materials on the Baltimore Energy Initiative Loan Program website - www.EnergyLoansBEI.org – will provide non-profi organizations and for-profit small businesses in Baltimore with the information they need to start saving money and energy.

### Eligible Borrowers:

- Non-profit organizations which provide at least 50% of their services to low-income persons.
- For-profit small businesses that own or have long-term lease on their space that are located in either: a) New Markets Tax Credit census tract or b) a Baltimore Main Streets District
- Non-profit or for-profit real estate developers of properties and projects that are located in either a) New Markets Tax Credit census tract or b) a Baltimore Main Streets District AND: 1) provide new neighborhood amenities; 2) remove blight; or 3) provide 50% of their housing to to low-income persons.



### Eligible Projects:

- Energy retrofits including limited retrofits, replacement of energy equipment, or whole building energy retrofits
- Energy measures in the **gut rehab** of an existing building; or
- Energy measures in **new construction** that significantly increase the energy performance of the building.
- Projects must show at least a 10-15% energy savings.



### LOAN CRITERIA AND TERMS

Loan terms will vary slightly depending on the size of the loan (small loans are up less than \$150,000 and large loans are \$150,000 and above) and the specifics of ach loan application and project, but in general will have the following features:

Loan amount:	Up to \$2 million. Borrowers can borrow a maximum of 90% of the cost of the energy project.		
Interest rate:	3.00 - 4.00% fixed		
Term:	Up to 15 years.		
Loan application fee:	\$250 for small loans. \$100 for large loans.		
Loan origination fee:	2% for small loans. 1% for large loans.		
Closing costs:	Borrower is responsible for all closing costs, including, but not limited to, legal, filing and constructio inspections.		
Loan servicing fee:	.37% of monthly payment for small loans. None for large loans.		
Collateral:	First or second position mortgage lien, provided that the total loan-to-value ratio does not exceed 85%.		

Borrowers must comply with several City requirements, including non-discrimination (the City's Commercial Non-Discrimination Policy and the City's Minority and Women's Business Enterprise Requirements) and insurance (Borrowers and their contractors must maintain applicable insurance coverage).

Loan funds must be used to pay for eligible building energy measures, which include:

- Building insulation and air sealing
- White roofs
- Windows and exterior doors
- HVAC
- Lighting
- Plumbing
- ENERGY STAR-rated appliances
- ENERGY STAR-rated equipment
- Solar hot water and Solar PV
- Combined Heat-and-Power
   Systems



Download a financing request form online to take the first step in financin your energy saving project.

### Apply Online

For more details about the program and to apply, visit:

www.EnergyLoansBEI.org

### Questions

The website of the Baltimore Energy Initiative Loan Program – www.EnergyLoansBEI.org – is the first place t find information about the program. The website has all o forms you need.

If you still have questions, you can email the Baltimore Energy Initiative Loan Program at: Info@EnergyLoansBEI.org

You email will be automatically forwarded to program staff at the City, The Reinvestment Fund and at Healthy Neighborhoods and the appropriate person will answer your questions.

Need to speak with one of the program staff? For general questions: Anne Draddy Baltimore Dept. of General Services – Energy Division 410.396.1221

anne.draddy@baltimorecity.gov

For questions about small projects (costing less than \$150,000): Rahn Barnes | Healthy Neighborhoods Inc. 410.332.0387 x154 rbarnes@healthyneighborhoods.org

For questions about larger projects (costing \$150,000 or more): Nyya Bance | The Reinvestment Fund 443.708.3812 nyya.bance@trfund.com

For technical questions about energy measures or systems: Roger Clark | The Reinvestment Fund 215.574.5814 roger.clark@trfund.com



### **Baltimore Energy Initiative Loan Program**

### www.EnergyLoansBEI.org













### Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development Community Development Administration

Lawrence J. Hogan Jr *Governor* Boyd K. Rutherford *Lt. Governor* Kenneth C. Holt *Secretary* 

### Neighborhood BusinessWorks Loan Program Fact Sheet

### **Purpose of the Program**

The Neighborhood BusinessWorks program (NBW) provides a revitalization resource to help stimulate investment in Maryland's older communities. The NBW loans provide flexible loan financing to small businesses located in or expanding in locally designated neighborhood revitalization areas throughout the State.

### **Eligible Applicants**

- Maryland-based small businesses (small business as defined by the U.S. Small Business Administration)
- Nonprofit organizations whose activities contribute to a broader revitalization effort and whose projects are intended to promote investment in commercial districts or town centers
  - Note: Local governments are not eligible applicants.

### **Amount of Financing Available**

- Loans up to \$5 million
- Each project assessed for financial need
- Refinances will be considered

### **Eligible Projects**

•

- Retail businesses, including franchises
- Manufacturing businesses
- Service-related businesses Mixed-use projects, consisting of a commercial or retail use at street level and residential units

Note: Some restrictions apply. See Restrictions section which follows.

### **Eligible Uses of Funds**

- Market/planning/feasibility studies
- Real estate acquisition
- New construction or rehabilitation
- Leasehold improvements
- Machinery and equipment
- Working capital (when part of total project cost)
- Certain other costs associated with opening or expanding a small business

Notes: (1) A Minority Business Enterprise Plan is required for those projects where NBDP funds will exceed \$250,000 for construction or rehabilitation.
 (2) Construction projects are reviewed by this Department's offices of Maryland Historical Trust and Codes Administration prior to funding.

### Loan Terms

- Interest rate based on market conditions & on underwriter's analysis
- Loan term up to 15 years, depending on loan size and underwriting
- Minimum 10 percent applicant capital cash contribution is required (based on total project cost)
- Personal guarantees and collateral are required
- No prepayment penalties



The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) pledges to foster the letter and spirit of the law for achieving equal housing opportunity in Maryland.

### Criteria Considered

- Project viability and potential
- Impact of the project on its neighborhood
- Significant exterior improvements
- · First floor commercial or retail space use which generates street level activity
- Improvements to a vacant/underutilized building or site
- Introduction of needed goods or services to a neighborhood
- Creation of new jobs
- Readiness to proceed

### **Restrictions & Considerations**

Priority is given to projects that strengthen neighborhood commercial districts and are part of a greater revitalization strategy. The following types of projects and activities will not be considered for NBW financing:

- Speculative developments (All properties must be pre-leased for a minimum of 51% of the leasable space prior to loan closing.)
- Residential or transient living facilities (other than mixed-use projects described in Eligible Projects section), e.g., multifamily or single-family housing developments, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, crisis care centers, group homes, transitional housing, and homeless shelters
- Facilities such as community halls, fire stations, hospitals, colleges, or universities
- Adult bookstores, adult video shops, other adult entertainment facilities, gambling facilities, gun shops, liquor stores, massage parlors, pawn shops, tanning salons, or tattoo parlors

### Application

A complete NBW loan application consisting of the items on the Required Documentation Checklist in the application package must be submitted before a project can be fully processed. If the application for funds is approved, additional documentation will be necessary to close the loan.

### For Additional Information

Please contact:

Michael J. Haloskey III Director Business Lending Programs Phone: 301-429-7523 Email: michael.haloskey@maryland.gov Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Neighborhood BusinessWorks Program 7800 Harkins Road Lanham, Maryland 20706 http://www.neighborhoodrevitalization.org/Programs/NBW/NBW.aspx MD Relay for the Deaf: 1-800-735-2258

### **Employment Opportunities**

As part of Maryland's continuing efforts to provide successful Welfare-to-Work opportunities, the Department of Housing and Community Development encourages Neighborhood Business Development Program applicants to make jobs available to Temporary Cash Assistance recipients. For further information on how to reach these resources, please contact the Department of Human Resources, Office of Work Opportunities at 410-767-7976 or the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Office of Employment Training at 410-767-2800 or the Maryland Job Service at

410-767-3416. Maryland also maintains a job bank on the internet at <u>https://mwe.dllr.state.md.us/JobSeeker/JobSeekerHome.asp</u>

### Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program

### **Small Commercial Tax Credit**

Administered by Maryland Historical Trust

The Heritage Structure Rehabilitation tax credit program includes credits for small commercial properties. This new category will help fund modest rehabilitation projects such as roof repair and façade restoration. Eligible projects may receive a state income tax credit up to 20 percent of qualified rehabilitation expenditures.

Small commercial rehabilitations cannot exceed \$500,000 in expenses, and the credit is capped at \$50,000 in a 24-month period.

MHT will accept applications for the Small Commercial Tax Credit beginning September 1 for preliminary review. Projects cannot begin work and will not be certified prior to January 1, 2015.

### Eligibility

Buildings must be income-producing and contain no more than 75 percent residential rental use. A main street business with a top floor apartment is an example of a small commercial property. Each building must be certified as historic, defined as having at least one of the following designations:

- Individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places
- A contributing resource within a National Register Historic District
- A locally designated structure or contributing resource to a local historic district that MHT determines to be eligible for the National Register
- Located within and certified as contributing to the significance of a Certified Heritage Area

### Learn more:

Megan Klem, megan.klem@maryland.gov, 410-514-7688 mht.maryland.gov/ taxcredits\_small\_commercial.shtml



