



**For Immediate Release**

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### **City Seeking Interest for Microenterprise Application**

*Pre-applications Available*

Amsterdam – The City of Amsterdam Community & Economic Development department is seeking pre-screening applications for the Microenterprise Assistance Program. Pre-screening application deadline is Friday, February 10, 2023.

The City of Amsterdam is considering applying for a second round of the grant through New York State Homes & Community Renewal (HCR). If awarded, the City of Amsterdam’s Microenterprise Assistance Program (AMAP) will target small businesses by providing much-needed working capital for start-up ventures and expansion of existing businesses. In 2021, Amsterdam was awarded \$215,000 through the HCR program. Nine businesses were assisted with thirteen new jobs created, and \$321,366 in owner equity was invested.

Businesses that qualify are eligible to receive grants ranging from \$5,000 - \$35,000 for their start-up or expansion projects with a 20% owner match on the total project. Grants are intended as working-capital for equipment, inventory, and operation, not for construction. A microenterprise is defined as a commercial enterprise that has five or fewer full-time-equivalent employees, one or more of which owns the enterprise at the time of application. Projects must result in the creation of at least one part-time-equivalent job. In the case where no jobs are to be created, the employer and/owner or current employee base must be low or moderate-income person as established by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) at the time of grant closing.

For the pre-screening application and additional information please visit <https://www.amsterdamny.gov/322/Microenterprise-Program>. Please email completed applications to: Amanda Bearcroft, Director of Community & Economic Development, City of Amsterdam at [abearcroft@amsterdamny.gov](mailto:abearcroft@amsterdamny.gov).

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