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News Release

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City Seeks Proposals for Projects that Support the Vitality of its Neighborhood Business Districts

*Minneapolis' Great Streets program continues to support small
businesses*

January 15, 2010 (MINNEAPOLIS)— The City of Minneapolis is accepting proposals for its Great Streets Business District Support Grants through a competitive Request for Proposals process. Recognizing that no commercial areas are exactly the same, the Business District Support Grants help fund activities that support the vitality of the city's business districts. [Eligible areas](#) are commercial corridors, commercial nodes, LRT station areas, and activity centers as identified in [The Minneapolis Plan](#). Proposals are sought from business associations, neighborhood groups, community development corporations, or other organizations working on business district revitalization. These are not grants for capital improvements, or grants for specific properties, but for work that supports a business district.

Examples of activities eligible for funding include market studies, retail recruitment initiatives, technical assistance to businesses, and marketing efforts. The maximum grant is \$50,000, and the contract term is one year.

Proposals are due on Friday, February 26, 2010 at 4:00 PM to CPED, 105 Fifth Ave. S, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55401. An informational meeting will be held on Thursday, January 28, 2010 at 9:00 AM at CPED, 105 Fifth Ave. S, Suite 200, Minneapolis.

Information can be found at http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/great_streets_home.asp, or by calling [Kelly Hoffman](#) at 612-673-5079.

More

Whether already vibrant, or in need of additional investment, the city's neighborhood business districts are its Great Streets - essential elements of a great city. In 2007, the Minneapolis City Council approved the [Great Streets Neighborhood Business District Program](#), a coordinated effort to help businesses develop and succeed along commercial corridors and at commercial nodes throughout the city. Through this program, City resources are available for business loans, real estate development gap financing, and business district assistance such as façade improvement programs, market studies, and retail recruitment efforts.

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