

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY TEMPLATE

Mission

The Gulf Coast Economic Development District's (District) board-approved mission statement is to:

Promote economic growth in a particular region in the State of Texas; Increase employment opportunities for the unemployed and underemployed; Assist and coordinate economic development efforts of local governments and organizations; Coordinate economic development planning with transportation planning and community programs aimed at stimulating the region's economy; Implement an economic development technical assistance program; Develop a regional overall development program; Conduct other activities supporting the region's economic development goals and objectives; and Exercise all other rights and powers granted to the Corporation pursuant to the Texas Nonprofit Corporation Act.

Target Market

- 1) Investment Area - Prequalified
- 2) Other Targeted Population - African American
- 3) Other Targeted Population - Hispanic

Financial Products

PRODUCT NAME/TYPE	MIN / MAX SIZE	INTEREST RATE RANGE	TERM	ELIGIBLE USES	SPECIAL FEATURES
Micro enterprise loans	\$10,000 up to \$50,000	As low as 2.5%	60 months	Inventory, non-real estate capital expenditures, working capital, fixed assets, heavy equipment	
Small business loans	\$50,001 up to \$300,000	As low as 4%	5-10 years	Inventory, non-real estate capital expenditures, working capital, fixed assets, heavy equipment	

Development Services

The District's two Business Development Officers annually conduct a wide range of workshops or webinars, including about the topics of marketing, increasing revenue, and preparing accurate financial statements.

Specifically, our workshops and webinars help prepare prospective borrowers to receive its financial products by more effectively using social media and search engine optimization strategies; successfully responding to Requests for Proposals and Qualifications issued by different public entities; as well as creating realistic financial projections using accurate bookkeeping practices and better understanding their key business costs.

FINANCIAL PRODUCT	ASSOCIATED DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GOALS
Micro enterprise loans	Workshop and webinar series	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote economic development ● Promote community revitalization ● Promote the creation of quality jobs ● Promote business development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Business development ● Asset/wealth building ● Job creation/retention ● Credit building ● Financial stability
Small business loans	Workshop and webinar series	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote economic development ● Promote community revitalization ● Promote the creation of quality jobs ● Promote business development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Business development ● Asset/wealth building ● Job creation/retention ● Credit building ● Financial stability

Community Development Strategy

Many entrepreneurs and small business owners in 12 counties that comprise the Houston-Galveston region lack sufficient access to affordable loans necessary for creating and/or expanding their enterprise. This challenge disproportionately impacts entrepreneurs and small business owners who are located in the District's Target Markets of pre-qualifying Investment Area eligible census tracts as well as our Other Targeted Populations of African-American and Hispanic borrowers.

In response, the District originates micro enterprise and small business loans that have an interest rate as low as 2.5% and 4% respectively. We also help more entrepreneurs and small business owners throughout the Houston-Galveston region qualify for our financial products by conducting workshops and webinars about a broad range of topics, including: effectively using social media and search engine optimization strategies; successfully responding to Requests for Proposals and Qualifications issued by different public entities; as well as creating realistic financial projections using accurate bookkeeping practices and better understanding their key business costs.

Through this work, the District achieves our community development objectives of promoting: economic development, community revitalization, the creation of quality jobs, and business development. Ultimately, originating affordable micro enterprise and small business loans enable the District to realize our community development goals of: business development, asset/wealth building, job creation/retention, credit building, and financial stability.

Approved by Gulf Coast Economic Development District Board of Directors on:

Date

[Signature]

[Name, Title]