

REBUILD DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES

Corridor Improvements Grant



LLSC



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity



REBUILD DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

The Rebuild Distressed Communities Program is a \$25 million economic recovery program to support economically distressed Illinois businesses and communities that have sustained property damage due to civil unrest on or after May 25th, 2020. The funding will help those businesses and communities rebuild and recover while improving community resilience.

Funds for the Rebuild Distressed Communities Program will be funded from the **Rebuild Illinois Program** by **Public Act 101-0638**.



OUR PARTNERS

DCEO has partnered with two community organizations, Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) and Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives, Inc. (CNI), to operate the program on behalf of DCEO.

The logo for Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) consists of the letters 'LISC' in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font.The logo for Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives, Inc. (CNI) features the letters 'CNI' in a stylized, light blue font with a dark blue outline. The 'C' is a large, rounded letter, and the 'NI' are smaller, blocky letters.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THESE FUNDS?

1. Nonprofits on behalf of businesses and corridors that have sustained property damage due to civil unrest that occurred on or after May 25, 2020, and
2. Located in economically distressed zip codes identified by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) as having sustained property damage due to civil unrest.

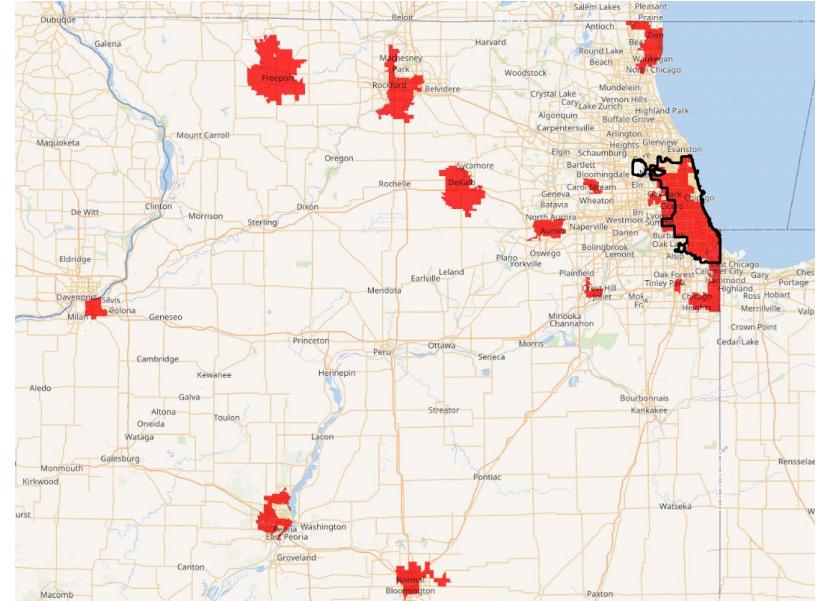
Nonprofits, Community/Economic Development Organizations and those of the like, that can make neighborhood capital improvements in impacted commercial corridors are also eligible to apply.



PRIORITY ELIGIBLE AREAS

This map includes **priority** eligible areas where businesses experienced property damage during civil unrest that occurred on or after May 25, 2020.

[VIEW LIST LIST OF PRIORITY ZIP CODES HERE](#)

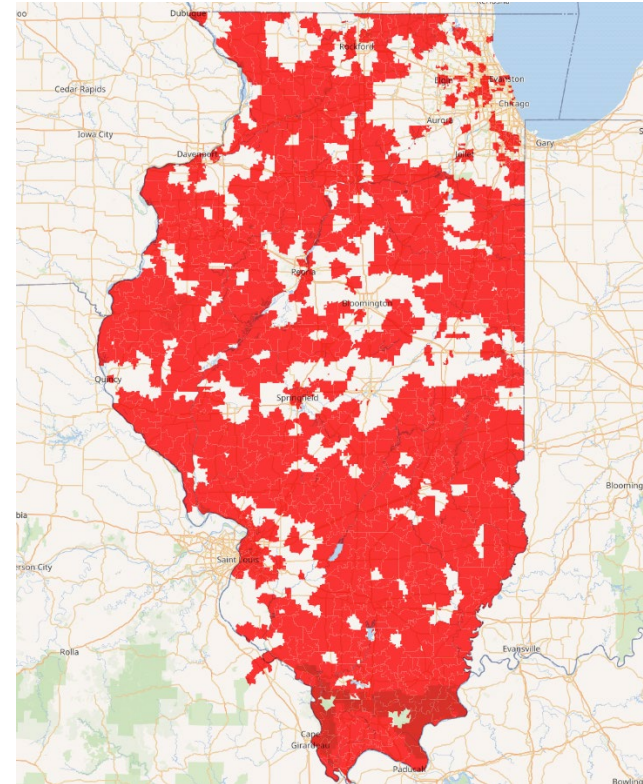


ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED AREA ZIP CODES

Corridors in zip codes not identified in the initial “priority area” list may still apply, so long as businesses in the corridor have been impacted due to civil unrest within an economically distressed zip code.

LISC and CNI will seek DCEO approval to include additional zip codes based on evidence of property damage due to civil unrest.

[VIEW LIST LIST OF
ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED
ZIP CODES HERE](#)



GRANT AWARDS

Grants awards can range up to \$1,500,000

- The amount of the award will be based on anticipated costs associated with the proposed project that is necessary and reasonable for the performance of the award and meet the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Capital Expenditures and Bondability Guidelines.

Capital funds from this program will allow grantee organizations to support impacted businesses in the following ways:

- Repair and recover from rioting and looting experienced during civil unrest by attracting economic activity
- Repairing and improving the infrastructure and security of the corridor
- Helping to facilitate a more vibrant and safer environment.

ELIGIBLE COSTS & EXPENSES

Eligible project expenses for Corridor Improvements include the following :

Utilities	Site Improvements
<p><i>Installation or replacement of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tap-ons or extensions of existing utility systems .• Earth moving for utility or other related conservation purposes .• Trenches or ditches dug for the purpose of providing ducts to remove excessive rainfall and prevent erosion• Internet & Broadband Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demolition, when done in preparation for additional bondable construction.• Grading sidewalks : terracing, exterior lighting, seeding/sodding if part of a larger bondable project.• Landscaping, installation of plant material if associated with a bondable project.• New Construction or upgrade of a road, parking lot or; extension of a road, parking lot• Wayfinding Signage, if part of a larger bondable project

ELIGIBLE COSTS & EXPENSES Cont'd

Eligible project expenses for Corridor Improvements include the following :

Buildings, Additions & Structures

- Security cameras and technology enhancements along the business corridor to oversee and support revitalization of the business corridor
- Total replacement and installation of security shutters, lighting systems, electrical systems
- New additions to existing buildings or structures.
- Reconstruction of an existing building or structure (storefronts, entrances, doors, and brickwork; total repair/replacement of roofing and/or windows).
- Exterior work to surface, structure or foundation to extend useful life.
- Roof Work: limited to removal of the system to the decking as well as stone, metal or other work to control water damage or ice formation.
- ADA accessibility improvements, moving toilets, water fountains, ramps and stairs, etc.

INELIGIBLE COSTS & EXPENSES

Ineligible Uses for Corridor Improvements :

In general, the grant funds available through this RFP may not be used for the following expenditures:

1. Operational and administrative expenses;
2. Lease payments for rental of equipment or facilities;
3. Costs of staff or resident labor and material;
4. Expenditures to acquire or construct temporary facilities;
5. Purchase of automobiles, trucks, farm equipment, boats or rolling stock;
6. Livestock or laboratory animals;
7. Unpredictable or unusual legal expenses;
8. Costs for archaeological digs, research or exploration.



Program Proposal Priorities

- ❑ **Scope of Damage:** Communities demonstrating more damage experienced due to civil unrest – whether multiple businesses or damage to the corridor - will be prioritized.
- ❑ **Distressed Communities :** Communities with higher poverty and unemployment rates.
- ❑ **Location:** Geographic distribution of funded projects will be considered to ensure funds are not concentrated to one region of the state.
- ❑ **Investment:** Potential impact for improvement to resiliency and revitalization as demonstrated in the project narrative.

Eligible Entities & Organizations

The following organizations are invited to submit a proposal:

- Business Improvement Districts
- Local/Neighborhood Chambers of Commerce or Business Associations
- Economic/Community Development Organizations
- Special Service Areas
- Local Governments and Municipalities

Proposal Detail

Organizations submitting Request for Proposals (RFP) should demonstrate the following:

- Economic development experience including marketing, assisting, enhancing, and attracting investment in the community
- Have existing relationships with business owners and property owners on the proposed project corridor.
- Have experience working with city/municipal or state incentive programs such as TIF, NOF, managing an SSA, and/or others.
- Be able to identify and move forward projects that will support small businesses, enhance neighborhood identity, and improve the area's business district.
- A detailed plan of your proposed improvement projects and the impact potential for the corridor

Proposal Components

- ❑ **Part 1 - Organization Overview** – A detailed description of your organization and its mission
- ❑ **Part 2 - Overview of Proposed Corridor Improvement Project** – (1) Examples of innovative projects your organization has successfully managed and the impact those projects have had on the community. (2) A detail on how your proposed project will respond to the community's need, support small businesses, enhance safety, and promote business attraction and retention strategies to the neighborhood improvement area.
- ❑ **Part 3 - Project Detail** - Describe the scope of work, include a project budget and schedule as well as a list of proposed vendors and contractors.
- ❑ **Part 4 - Letters of Support** – Letters from local stakeholders such as your alderman, small businesses, or partner organizations that demonstrates your organization's ability to successfully manage the neighborhood improvement plan.

IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION

When does the RFP open and close? Proposals will be accepted from April 5th, 2021 - June 7th, 2021 at 5pm.

Where do I submit my proposal? Interested organizations can submit their proposals by email to RDC_Grant@lisc.org by 5pm on June 7, 2021.

Where do I find more information about the program? visit DCEO, LISC, or CNI's website for more information.

Website Link:

DCEO <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/SmallBizAssistance/Pages/C19DisadvantagedBusGrants-DistressedCapital.aspx>

LISC: <https://www.lisc.org/chicago/regional-stories/rebuild-illinois-distressed-communities-grant/>

CNI: <https://www.cnigroup.org/>

RESOURCES

Additional Questions?

For general inquiries, email RDC_Grant@lisc.org. LISC will be monitoring this inbox for inquiries. We will be posting answers and updates in an effort to support transparency and equal access to information for all applicants. These updates will be available on the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

Additional Resources

[Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity](#)

[Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives](#)

Local Initiatives Support Corporation [Chicago](#) / [Central Illinois](#)

[Illinois Small Business Development Center Network](#)

QUESTIONS?

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