



CITY OF DORAL COUNCIL MEETING MEMORANDUM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

ITEM TITLE:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE DORAL SEEDS BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF BUDGETED FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

BRIEF HISTORY:

The City of Doral Seeds Business Grant Program is a competitive grant program intended to support qualified small businesses located within the City of Doral by accelerating measurable growth, promoting job creation, and supporting long-term economic activity within the City.

The Program is administered by the City's Economic Development Department on an annual cycle, subject to renewal and available funding. The City provides a grant award allocation of up to \$20,000 per program cycle, and private sector sponsorship contributions may supplement the City award allocation in accordance with the policy.

The Program selects one awardee per cycle, with a base grant amount consisting of the City award allocation (not to exceed \$20,000), and cash sponsorship contributions may supplement and increase the total cash grant amount; in-kind sponsorship contributions may supplement the award package but are not included in the cash grant calculation.

Grant disbursement is milestone-based: 70% upon execution of the Grant Agreement and satisfaction of any pre-disbursement requirements, and 30% upon verification of agreed-upon milestones within six months (or other timeline established in the Grant Agreement).

The Program includes eligibility requirements (e. g. , for-profit status; physical location and operations within the City; active business tax receipt; at least 12 months of continuous operation; compliance and good standing; not a franchise or chain) and identifies ineligible applicants (e. g. , nonprofits; passive investment vehicles; certain prohibited business types; sponsors and affiliates; applicants failing orientation or documentation requirements).

Specifically, all applicants must complete a mandatory orientation prior to applying. Including, undergoing a documentation-based, pass/fail qualification gate administered by City staff before any scoring, and only applications passing the Qualification Gate are scored by an Independent

Review Committee. The Independent Review Committee evaluates qualified applications using published scoring sheets to select five finalists, followed by a public demo day final evaluation to select the awardee; the City Manager (or designee) provides final certification solely to confirm procedures were followed.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION: (IF APPLICABLE)

Date:	Resolution/Ordinance No.	Comments

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The proposed item has a fiscal impact on revenues and/or expenditures in the amount of:

\$50,000.00 or less

\$50,000.00 or more

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- A. Policy
- B. Draft Resolution.