



Hello Friends and Neighbors,

First and foremost, the Montague Street BID would like to send a heartfelt message of support to our community. While we are limiting our external and face-to-face meetings, we are still hard at work for you, and are dedicated to making sure you have the resources you need during these uncertain times. We are maintaining close contact with the New York City officials, businesses and residents, and wanted to share some important resources.

First, a few updates:

- The Montague BID Ambassadors have increased cleaning in public spaces, and are observing strict sanitary protocols such as frequent hand washing and social distancing.

All events have been canceled through April 30. Please follow our social media ([Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)) for future event updates. Stay tuned as we consider new ways to keep us safely engaged and active.

As a convener and connector for the neighborhood, the BID is here to help – so if you have a need, an idea or something to share with the community, please reach out to us [here](#).

Now, a few useful resources:

- New York Police Department has continued normal operations and they are asking the public to call the non-emergency number 311 for any issues that are not life threatening, which will help keep the 911 line and staff available for emergencies.

Stay safe and up-to-date. Follow the CDC [webpage](#) and WHO [webpage](#) and New York City's [webpage](#) for the most up-to-date information.

- Need to get out for some exercise? The Parks are still open.
- **To receive text updates** from the City, Text COVID to 692-692

[CLICK FOR FAQ FOR SMALL BUSINESSES](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR RESOURCES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES](#)

FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

In response to the state of emergency declared in New York City due to the novel (new) coronavirus, known as COVID-19, the NYC Department of Small Business Services has updated its guidance for businesses to reflect the new changes regarding events and business capacity. They have also added information about the new financial assistance programs for small businesses, questions you can ask your insurance provider for companies impacted by COVID-19: a **zero-interest loan program** and an **employee retention grant**.

These programs are still being developed and are not yet available. Interested businesses should sign up at www.nyc.gov/sbs to receive up to date information, as more details about the programs become available. Click [here](#) for more information.

For additional business resources, please see the [CDC's guide for businesses](#).

Overview of the programs:

Zero-interest loan: Zero-interest loans of up to \$75K will be available to help businesses that experience a sales decline associated with COVID-19.

The working capital will help businesses remain afloat during this potential decrease in economic activity. Similar to SBA disaster loans, which have long repayment terms, these loans would be structured so that businesses have time to recover.

To be eligible, businesses must have **fewer than 100** employees and document at least a **25% percent** decrease in sales.

Employee retention grant: Up to cash grant of up to **40% of payroll** to help pay and retain employees during decrease in sales.

Businesses with **fewer than five** employees are eligible.

We also encourage you to visit the [NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene website](#) for more up-to-date information, including FAQs for employers.

JOB SEEKERS CLICK HERE

FOR JOB SEEKERS

The NYC Department of Small Business Services (NYC SBS) is committed to sharing the latest information about coronavirus (COVID-19) with its jobseekers.

With this, NYC SBS will continue to send regular updates as the situation evolves. In the meantime, we encourage you to review the resources provided below, and sign up to receive Workforce1 and NYC Department of Small Business Services communication.

Below are additional resources that can help you stay safe and prevent the spread of germs. We also encourage you to visit the [NYC Health website](#) for more up-to-date information, including FAQs for employers.

Click [here](#) to sign up to receive email communications for job seekers.

As we continue to breathe deeply through this unprecedented time in all of our lives, stay well and shop local.

Kate

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