The Cape Cod Commission (Commission), on behalf of Barnstable County and the Barnstable County Economic Development Council (BCEDC), is seeking proposals from local or regional governmental or nonprofit agencies for projects that support recovery efforts from the COVID-19 pandemic and resiliency to such impacts in the future.

Approximately $150,000 has been allocated for grants up to $25,000 in FY21.

Projects proposed should address a documented impact of the pandemic and align with and support implementation of the region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Demographic and economic data for Cape Cod towns, non-profit organizations, and businesses recovering from the economic impacts of COVID-19 is available through the Cape Cod COVID-19 Data Dashboard. The dashboards include regional and town data (when available) on population demographics, unemployment trends, rooms and meals tax revenues, employment, housing, and seasonality and may be used to assist in documenting COVID-19 impacts.

In addition, proposals must demonstrate consistency with one or more of the CEDS Action Plan initiatives. The most recent five-year update was adopted by the BCEDC and Cape Cod Commission in June 2019. The following initiatives are part of its Action Plan:

- Local Business Development
- Blue Economy Sector Development
- Comprehensive and Activity Center Planning
- Housing Access and Affordability
- Climate Change Innovation
- Regional Infrastructure Planning
- Transportation and Air Quality Improvement
- Infrastructure Development
- Infrastructure Funding
The CEDS Action Plan represents a range of economic sectors on Cape Cod, from education and small businesses to social services and government. The initiatives are described in detail in the CEDS Action Plan, which also includes a list of potential projects.

This grant opportunity is intended to provide quick, flexible funding necessary to support local and regional economic recovery. Grants will support projects that can be completed within one year. No match is required.

Submission Requirements
All applications are to be submitted as a pdf by e-mail to bcedc@barnstablecounty.org. Applicants are required to provide contact information, potential partners, a brief project summary, project timeline, budget information, and project narrative that addresses the required information described below.

Applications are due no later than July 10, 2020. Selected applicants will be notified in August 2020.

Required Information
Applications are limited to five pages and must include the following:

■ Applicant contact information
■ Brief project description
■ Identification of project manager and potential partner(s) and their role(s), if any
■ Project narrative that includes a statement regarding the following criteria:
  o Project Consistency with Regional Goals – Does this project advance the Regional Growth Policy to direct growth into Activity Centers and away from sensitive resources? Does this project help to diversify the regional economy, advance economic resiliency and achieve long-term economic sustainability in the region? Is the project consistent with the CEDS Action Plan?
  o Project Need and Readiness – What specific pandemic-induced economic development need(s)/priority(s) will this project address? Please include data and information describing current pandemic impacts and anticipated post-pandemic needs.
  o Project Impact – What economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic does this project address? How will this project support Cape Cod's response and resilience to these effects?
■ Scope of work and project timeline
■ Budget and budget narrative
Proposal Evaluation Process and Notification

To be considered for funding, proposals must meet the following minimum criteria:

- A complete proposal with all information/documentation provided
- Demonstrated capacity and ability to complete all work within one year
- Consistency with one or more of the CEDS Action Plan initiatives

Proposals will be further evaluated based on the extent to which they address the required information described above and their consistency with the CEDS Action Plan.

All proposals will be evaluated by the BCEDC Grants Committee. The Grants Committee reserves the right to request additional information and/or an in-person interview and, in some cases, modifications to the proposed project. The BCEDC Grants Committee will recommend proposals for award to the BCEDC; final awards will be made by the Barnstable County Commissioners.

AWARDS

Awards are anticipated to be made in August 2020.

The BCEDC through Cape Cod Commission staff, will provide awardees with an agreement incorporating the agreed upon scope of work and outlining reporting and other responsibilities. This agreement will be executed by the recipient’s authorized signatory and the Barnstable County Commissioners, or their designee, before work may begin.