

WILLIAMSBURG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COVID-19 ACTIVITY

A Summary of Economic Development Activity During the Pandemic

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

Began offering virtual office hours in June every Tues & Thurs. This has been well-received and has opened the door to assist businesses we were not reaching before.

32

COVID-19
MARKETING GRANT
AWARDS
(\$12,216.45)

E-NEWSLETTERS TO BUSINESSES

73

INTERACTIVE MAP

Created an interactive map for the community, allowing businesses to share that they are open and how their operations have changed (curbside pickup, virtual counseling sessions, etc).

SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF FUND

Partnered with James City and York County EDAs to establish a relief fund for local businesses. This fund continues to grow through community contributions, and provides grants through the VA30Day Fund.

106

COVID-19 CDBG
GRANT AWARDS
(\$490,713.72)

COVID-19 BUSINESS GRANT AWARDS (\$141,643.35)

110

FACE MASKS

Distributed more than **700** face masks to City businesses to protect employees through reopening.

COVID-19 BUSINESS ASSISTANCE HUB

Created landing page & resource hub for City businesses that includes recovery information, access to grants, links to resources, COVID eNewsletter archive and more.

99

TOURISM INDUSTRY
RELIEF GRANT
(\$660,000)

SAFE PROSPECT RECRUITMENT VISITS

6

OUTDOOR DINING

Collaborated with the City Manager's Office to create an ordinance to allow outdoor dining for downtown restaurants while indoor capacity was reduced due to the Governor's Executive Order.

VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLES

Adapted Business Roundtable program to virtual platform to provide relevant resources to businesses.

1300+

TECHNICAL
ASSISTS TO
BUSINESSES

INCLUDES ACTIVITY FROM
MARCH 13TH TO DECEMBER 31ST

COVID-19 GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW



CDBG Business Grant

101 Awards
\$458,267.66



Marketing Grant

32 Awards
\$12,216.45



COVID-19 Business (BPOL)

110 Awards
\$141,643.35



Tourism Industry Relief Grant

100 Awards
\$667,500



Small Business Investment Grant

5 Awards*
\$12,600.57

*COVID-19 Related Awards

Total COVID-19 Grant Awards

\$1,292,228.03



“Like towns and cities all over this country, Williamsburg faced unprecedented obstacles and challenges in 2020. What makes me so proud of this small but mighty

Economic Development department is the speed and resiliency with which they responded when faced with a once-in-a-century pandemic. Our City staff coordinated grants and relief programs that delivered more than 1.3 million dollars to local businesses. It was only through the resourcefulness, persistence, creativity, ingenuity, flexibility, and hard work from the ED department that our businesses were aware of and able to take advantage of these grant opportunities. I am grateful to have been able to be a part of these efforts through my role on City Council and continue to be impressed by our efforts to support, bolster, and grow businesses.”

– BARB RAMSEY,
Member, Williamsburg City Council



“Our Economic Development department worked tirelessly to assist our local businesses throughout the

COVID-19 pandemic, and that work is ongoing. The staff’s efforts certainly made a difference in the lives of our business owners and employees, which helps our entire community get through these tough times.”

– RICK OVERLY, Williamsburg Economic Development Authority Chair & Owner of Compass Wealth Strategies