



FYI NEWSLETTER

Promoting Responsible Economic Development Since 1967

July 28, 2020

DeIDOT Continues Implementation of Business Process Improvements

The Delaware Department of Transportation recently announced updates to support growing businesses around the state.

Small Commercial Entrance Process

The new [Small Commercial Entrance](#) process will save time and costs for eligible small businesses by utilizing an approved entrance plan template that will not require the business to pay for a private entrance design to be submitted to DeIDOT for review and approval. Roughly 30 percent of small commercial entrance plans submitted in 2019 would qualify for this new review process from utilizing an approved entrance plan template. This new Small Commercial Entrance process will be on a 15 days review cycle to help small businesses move forward with their plans as quickly as possible.

More information can be found on the [Development Coordination](#) page or by contacting the Development Coordination Section at 302.760.2266 .

Expedited Reviews and Approvals

An expedited review and approval process will be enacted before the end of summer. DeIDOT has added three new positions in its Planning Division to help guide businesses identified with significant economic impact, through the Record and Entrance review and approval process from beginning to end to ensure these projects are reviewed, modified as needed, and approved as quickly as possible.

TIIF Council Makes First Recommendations

The Transportation Infrastructure Investment Fund (TIIF) Council has recommended that eight projects receive a total of \$8.8 million in grant funds that will go toward infrastructure investments providing a public benefit and assist in the creation or relocation of more than 1,300 jobs in the state.

TIIF was established to provide economic assistance for renovation, construction, or any other type of improvements to roads and related transportation infrastructure in order to attract new businesses, or expand existing businesses in the State, when such an economic development opportunity would create a significant number of direct, permanent, quality full-time jobs. [Read more...](#)

Small Business Assistance

Please share these opportunities with your clients and tenants:

- **True Access Capital Small Business Relief/Recovery Loan Program** is offering loans up to \$20,000 for underserved small businesses. For more information or to apply contact Barbra Willis at bwillis@trueaccesscapital.com or call 302-652-6774, ext. 113

- **Victims' Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP)** is for businesses that were damaged or vandalized following the demonstrations. The program assists Delawareans with crime scene cleanups (up to \$1,000) and personal safety property (up to \$1,500). Please call VCAP at (302) 255-1770 or [click here for more information](#) or [click here to apply](#).



To support small businesses citywide during the COVID-19 pandemic, **The Wilmington Strong Small Business Fund** was created. Through a public-private partnership, local economic development organizations came together to act quickly, to ensure Wilmington businesses will remain open for years to come.

The Wilmington Strong Small Business Fund offer microgrants of approximately \$1,000 to small businesses located in the City of Wilmington to cover specific expenses such as rent payments, mortgage payments, utility and supplier bills.

For more information and to apply please visit: www.wilmingtonstrongfund.com



- **Downtown Development Districts (DDD) Rebate Program** was created to leverage state resources to: spur private capital investment, stimulate job growth and improve the commercial vitality of our cities and towns, and to help build a stable community of long-term residents in our downtowns and neighborhoods. Under this Act, funding was allocated to DSHA to establish and administer the DDD Rebate Program. For questions, contact Penny Pierson at 302.739.4263 or email Penny@destatehousing.com

- **Hospitality Emergency Loan Program (H.E.L.P.)** offers no-interest loans of up to \$10,000 per month for rent, utilities, and other unavoidable bills for restaurants, bars, personal care services and other small businesses. [Click here for more information.](#)



New Castle County has begun an important two-year process of developing a new countywide comprehensive plan which will guide growth and development for generations. The plan, entitled, "NCC@2050," will be a community-driven process that will allow us to strategically shape how we grow and develop as a county. The plan will help guide development and services; shape the communities where we live, work, and play; celebrate our environmental, historical, and cultural assets; and support a robust economy.

The Department of Land Use will manage the comprehensive planning process and has developed a central website where residents will be able to participate in community surveys, explore interactive mapping tools, sign up for email updates, learn more about the county's planning process, and submit photos of their favorite places.

The Committee of 100 is participating in the Stakeholder Challenge in which our members will collectively respond to five core questions. Look for a follow-up email next month with more details. This will be our opportunity to get involved with the NCC@2050 plan at the beginning. While this isn't a scientific survey, the results will be used to help

New Castle County understand our members' key issues, priorities, and aspirations.

As part of NCC@2050, a series of virtual public meetings will be held over the next several months to begin a candid conversation with the community. Topics of discussion will include environmental justice, economic development, transportation, housing, as well as other topics that are identified through the online survey.

To learn more about the County's comprehensive plan, including how you can get involved, please visit [NCC2050.newcastlede.gov](https://www.ncc2050.newcastlede.gov).

Anti-Affordable Housing Wilmington City Council Ordinance

The Committee of 100 joined ABC Delaware, the New Castle County Chamber and other concerned organizations in submitting letters to members of City Council opposing proposed legislation that would impose apprenticeship, wage rate, and other regulatory restrictions on projects that receive any form of financial assistance from the City of Wilmington. [Ordinance 18-041](#) would negatively impact affordable housing non-profits, women-owned and minority-owned contractors, and all those in need of affordable housing in Wilmington. City Council voted to send the proposed ordinance back to the Community Development & Urban Planning Committee for consideration in September.

2020 Annual BBQ - COVID Edition!



Over 50 members, guests and elected officials reconnected over delicious food and cold beverages at the newly-restored Carriage House at the University & Whist Club last week. View more photos [here](#).



Special Thanks To Our 2020 Annual BBQ Table Sponsors



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Join us for a **FREE** live webinar!

SOCIAL ENGINEERING TRAPS AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

AUGUST 5TH | 11:00AM

[REGISTER HERE](#)

COVID-19 has dramatically affected companies of all sizes around the globe, and cybercrime and fraud threaten to make it worse. This webinar will focus on helping small business owners understand and address the cybersecurity threats facing them and their businesses. In this conversational webinar, **Mark Brindle**, *Commercial Banker, JPMC* will interview **Phillip Ferraro**, *Head of the Cybersecurity Awareness program, JPMC* to:

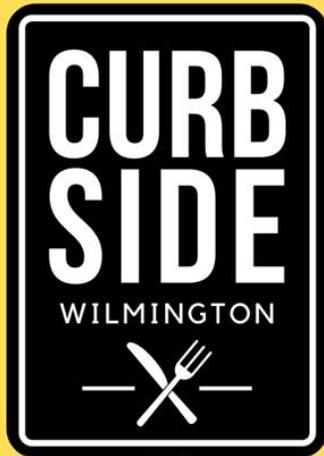
- Help small businesses and their employees identify cyber threats
- Assess the risk of partners and third-party vendors
- Understand how to use payment controls to reduce fraud
- Implement and maintain secure technology controls



MARK BRINDLE
Vice President,
Chase



PHILLIP FERRARO
Managing Director, J.P.
Morgan Asset & Wealth
Management (AWM)



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DOWNTOWN WILMINGTON DE

- Expanded outdoor dining
- Free valet parking from 5-10 pm:
 - Thursday-Saturday on 7th & 9th Streets at Market Street
 - Friday-Saturday on 5th Street at Market Street
- Designated parking spots for curbside delivery
- Live entertainment on Fridays from 5-9 pm on the 800 block of Market Street

Curbside Wilmington runs through the end of summer, so make reservations now!

Check out the Curbside Wilmington Happy Hour Facebook Event for more details.



HAVE A SAFE AND HEALTHY SUMMER!

The Committee of 100

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