



## Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties  
June 30, 2022



### **Project Restore Accepting Next Round of Applications on July 7th**

**Project Restore** will provide \$25 million to fill vacant retail and commercial buildings and support business investment, job creation, and economic growth in Maryland's communities. Businesses opening or expanding into vacant retail and commercial properties may be eligible for Project Restore grants from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Project Restore grants can help new and growing businesses with rent payments and operating costs in their first year.

Project Restore provides two grant opportunities for businesses, including nonprofits, that are expanding, moving to or opening in a property that was previously vacant for at least six months:

**Property Assistance Grant:** Provides up to \$30,000 for one year to support costs associated with rent, mortgage payment or property improvements as applicable.

**Business Operations Grant:** For businesses that generate sales and use tax, provides up to \$250,000 per calendar year to support capital (property improvements, equipment etc.) and operating (staff salaries, marketing, inventory etc.) costs associated with business operations in the vacant property.

### **Project Restore Application – scheduled to open on July 7.**

The Project Restore application will be available online. Prior to submitting an application you will be required to register with the Maryland OneStop Portal. OneStop is the central hub for Maryland State licenses, forms, certificates, permits, applications, and registrations and can be accessed at: <https://onestop.md.gov/>

Click [\*\*HERE\*\*](#) for more details and how to apply.



## **2022 RMC Issues Survey**

The Rural Maryland Council created a short survey to identify the concerns and challenges faced in rural Maryland. The information that we collect will help guide the Council's legislative and funding priorities for our two grant programs – the Maryland Agriculture Education & Rural Development Assistance Fund (MAERDAF) and the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMPIF).

Click on the following link to access the survey:  
<https://mdamarketing.wufoo.com/forms/z1b4b4fd16v83ld/>.

This survey will only take a few minutes to complete. Voice your opinion in what areas you feel rural Maryland has the most challenges. Help us to improve the future and the quality of life for all of rural Maryland!

**The deadline to submit a response to the survey is  
Friday, August 26, 2022.**

For more information, please contact the RMC at  
410-841-5772 or [rmc.mda@maryland.gov](mailto:rmc.mda@maryland.gov).



## **Five Key Elements To Any Marketing Plan**

Thursday, July 7, 2022  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

For more details and to Register, follow [this link](#).

## **Ready, Set Go! The Nuts & Bolts in Starting a Business**

Tuesday, July 12, 2022  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

For more details and to Register, follow [this link](#).

Visit the [SBDC Training Calendar](#) for more Event Opportunities