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The City of Oneida Launches Downtown Business Assistance Fund

[Oneida, NY] - The City of Oneida was awarded \$600,000 of funding through the NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) to assist business and building owners in downtown. The Downtown Business Assistance Fund (BAF) is now available to business and property owners within the DRI Target Area. To see if your business or property is located within the target area and to get more information about the BAF, visit <u>www.oneidacityny.gov/DRI</u>.

The City will also hold a Public Information Session on **Monday, October 16th at 5:30pm** at City Hall in the Common Council Room. This session will provide interested community members and business owners with information about the BAF application process and requirements, as well as an opportunity to ask questions.

Through the DRI and BAF, the City of Oneida aims to transform the target downtown area into a magnet for redevelopment, job creation, business, and economic diversity. BAF funds can be used for façade improvements, signage, interior renovations and leasehold improvements, and permanent machinery and equipment for businesses. These funds can *reimburse* up to 50% of the total eligible project cost. The first round of applications for BAF funding are due **Monday**, **November 20th at 5:00pm**.

The City of Oneida has engaged MRB Group from Rochester, NY, and Flatley Read from Schuylerville, NY to assist in this effort. As part of this process, the MRB and Flatley Read team is coordinating the application process, conducting preliminary application reviews, coordinating site environmental reviews and inspections, and managing and monitoring projects.

For more information, please attend the Public Information Session on **Monday, October 16th at 5:30pm** at City Hall and visit <u>www.oneidacityny.gov/DRI</u> for important information and program updates. You can also email <u>oneidabaf@gmail.com</u> with questions.

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