

MERIDEN BUSINESS INVESTMENT AND GROWTH PROGRAM (Meriden BIG 1.0)
And
MERIDEN BUSINESS INVESTMENT AND GROWTH PROGRAM 2.0
(Meriden BIG 2.0)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION ADDENDUM #1
(February 9, 2024)

Description of Allowed Expenses

During the course of consideration by the City of Meriden of successful preapplications for funding under the Meriden BIG 1.0 and Meriden BIG 2.0 Programs questions have been raised over the expenses which would be allowable for funding under these Programs. This Addendum is to answer these questions and make clear the expenses which would be allowable for funding under these Programs.

MERIDEN BIG 1.0:

The section of the Meriden BIG 1.0 Program Description titled “**Eligible Expenses and Purchasing through City; Inspections and Follow-Up Reporting**” is amended by adding thereto the following paragraph:

Project expenses funded by the Program shall include any and all of the following expenses not expressly prohibited by federal ARPA regulations or the Program guidelines for the Eligible Program Activities described in the approved preapplication for the specific “Project” as follows:

- 1) **Code correction assistance:** Expenses for any improvements, repairs installations or equipment, whether in the interior or exterior of the subject premises that address or remediate any code issue or safety concern associated with the condition or use of the subject premises. These expenses may include, without limitation, entrances and exits of the building, sidewalk improvements or maintenance, parking lot improvements or maintenance, lighting, alarm systems, fire protection equipment or fume hoods, sprinkler installation and/or maintenance, and any other expense associated in any way with code or safety compliance issues.

- 2) **Vanilla Box assistance:** Expenses for any improvements, repairs installations or equipment, whether in the interior or exterior of the subject premises, to prepare the premises for occupancy by tenants or business owners. These expenses may include, without limitation, expenses for HVAC installation, maintenance or upgrade, painting, dry wall work and removal or installation of walls or built-in facilities, signage, façade improvements or maintenance electrical and plumbing work, business equipment to permit occupancy for the intended business purpose, and any other expense associated in any way with

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preparation of the premises for occupancy by tenants or business owners for business operations in the premises.

- 3) **Economic Development Funding**: Expenses for any business expenses for start-up businesses, in operation less than one year, to operate in Meriden that are new expenses and not reimbursements for expenses incurred prior to the approval of the relevant preapplication. These expenses may include the widest variety of expenses, including, without limitation, equipment costs, capital costs, rent and utility payments and other expenses described in the relevant Program preapplication and approved by the City of Meriden.

MERIDEN BIG 2.0:

The section of the Meriden BIG 1.0 Program Description titled “**Eligible Expenses and Purchasing through City; Inspections and Follow-Up Reporting**” is amended by adding thereto the following paragraph:

Project expenses funded by the Program shall include any and all expenses which are not expressly prohibited by federal ARPA regulations or the Program guidelines for the Eligible Program Activities described in the approved preapplication for the specific “Project”. These expenses may include, without limitation, the widest variety of new expenditures (not reimbursements of prior expenditures) for equipment, direct construction costs and costs of design, and of any personal property or business services required for the eligible business.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

The Finance Department of the City of Meriden and the ARPA consultants engaged by the City of Meriden have added additional requirements for proof of cash flow and other requirements not specified in the Program Descriptions. Please contact the City of Meriden Economic Development Department for further information and requirements.