

CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Department: Housing & Human Services

RFP Title: Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program

Opening Date: 07/01/2024

Addendum #: 2

Issue Date: 06/21/2024

The purpose of this addendum is:

Slide deck from the Pre-Bid Conference

Providence City Hall 25 Dorrance Street Providence, RI 02903



City of Providence Food Security Infrastructure Grants

June 2024



Providence Emergency Food Plan

 This plan seeks to strengthen the intersecting systems that impact the environments within which people access food during emergency and nonemergency times.



A food emergency is defined as any event, such as weather, public health, public safety, or other emergency, that disrupts Providence residents' ability to access food in their usual or preferred ways.



PLAN COMPONENTS

Goals and Objectives



Providence Emergency Food Plan Priority Areas

Priority 1: Infrastructure

- Priority 2: City Policies and Practices
- Priority 3: Workforce Support Across the Food System
- Priority 4: Community-Centeredness and Cultural Competence

Cross-cutting priorities of **Equity** and **Social Determinants of Health** were selected for the plan and, as such, have been integrated across all plan priorities.

Emergency Food Plan by the Numbers

Priority Area	Objectives	Strategies
1: Infrastructure	5	32
2: City Policies and Practices	5	32
3: Workforce Support Across the Food System	3	17
4: Community-Centeredness and Cultural Competence	4	23
Totals	17	104

Providence Emergency Food Plan Goals Cross-cutting priorities of Equity and Social

Determinants of Health were selected for the plan

Priorities	Goals
1: Infrastructure	Goal 1: The City of Providence, its partners, and its diverse communities are collectively prepared to serve the people most impacted by a food emergency through well-resourced, safe, and accessible food infrastructure.
2: City Policies and Practices	Goal 2: The City of Providence has nimble, community- centered, and equitable policies and practices to ensure emergency and ongoing access to appropriate food.
3: Workforce Support Across the Food System	Goal 3: The City of Providence and each of its communities have capacity and systems to equitably distribute resources.
4: Community- Centeredness and Cultural Competence	Goal 4: The City of Providence will mobilize community partners to facilitate equitable access to a variety of culturally connected and healthy foods across the communities most impacted.

Priority Area 1 Infrastructure

Goal 1: The City of Providence, its partners, and its diverse communities are collectively prepared to serve the people most impacted by a food emergency through well-resourced, safe, and accessible food infrastructure.

Objectives

- 1.1: Identify and support a comprehensive network of emergency food providers who are community and place based. S
- 1.2 Increase available resources and strategically channel them to community-trusted organizations who provide equitable emergency food services. M
- 1.3 Identify and implement necessary upgrades to City properties for emergency food response. M
- 1.4: Increase the accessibility of emergency food resources. M
- 1.5: Increase community resilience for short-, medium-, and long-term food needs to be sourced from within the community. L

Timing: S = *Short-term, M* = *Medium-term, L* = *Long-term*

FOOD SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM



Overview

- Seeking proposals from members of the City's local food system for capital improvement projects that will <u>strengthen and improve the City's food system's</u> <u>resiliency, with a focus on increased capacity to respond during a food emergency</u>.
- <u>Eligibility:</u> Applicants must be part of the local food production and distribution system
- <u>Timeline:</u> Awarded projects must be completed by June 30, 2025.
- <u>Funding Availability</u>: The Department of Housing & Human Services anticipates making awards for an estimated total of \$295,000



Eligible Projects

Eligible projects must involve capital improvements, information technology needs, the purchase of durable equipment, and direct labor costs to implement them. Projects will support necessary infrastructure updates to the City's local food system, including:

- 1. <u>Storage and processing equipment</u> to expand local food production and distribution.
- 2. Facility adaptations and capital renovations to:
 - Increase capacity for food storage, preparation, and/or client access.
 - Improve accessibility in accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act.
- 3. Information technology needs to:
 - Increase the provision of multilingual communications and services for persons with Limited English Proficiency.
 - Improve emergency preparedness and response times.

Competitive projects must demonstrate equity and food access for the most vulnerable households during a food emergency as core components of the proposal.



Eligible Applicants

Applicants must be part of the local food production and distribution system:

- Entities principally and substantially engaged in processing and distribution,
- the emergency food distribution network,
- community and food organizations, and school meal programming (including summer meal sites).
- Faith-based organizations are eligible to apply, but the provision of services as a result of the proposed project must be secular.

Applicants must meet the requirements of this RFP and have demonstrable experience utilizing prior ARPA or comparable federal funds.



Funding Availability

The Department of Housing & Human Services anticipates making awards for an estimated total of \$295,000.

• The City reserves the right to award the full contract to one proposer, split the award among more than one proposer, award a partial contract for specific tasks outlined in this RFP, award no contract, and/or to re-release this RFP as it deems in the best interest of the City of Providence. Additionally, this award is not a guarantee or a promise of business.



Funding Decisions

- Funding for this program is limited.
- Applications that meet all general guidelines and requirements may not necessarily receive an award.
- The City may fund a project for the full amount requested, less than the full amount, or not at all.
- There are no requirements or expectations that the City must award all funds via this solicitation.
- The City reserves the right to postpone or cancel this solicitation if it deems it to be in the best interests of the City to do so. The City reserves the right to waive any technical or formal errors or omissions.
- Successful applicants shall be in complete compliance with all of the specifications, terms, and conditions of this solicitation and related programs.
- Applicants must be current to the City on any loan, contractual, or tax obligation as due, and with any rules, regulations, or provisions on any existing or past City contracts.

Required Activities

- Recipients will be required to submit quarterly outcome reporting, which shall-include general participant information, participant demographics, total number of participants, and amounts awarded.
- Any purchase of real or personal property with SLFRF funds must be consistent with the Uniform Guidance at 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart D. Recipients must ensure they follow federal use and disposition requirements for real and personal property, supplies, and equipment purchased with SLFRF funds.

Proposal Materials

- 1. Contact Information: Individual or organization name, phone and email. If applying as a collaborative, please identify the lead applicant and provide the above information for each partner organization.
- 2. Proposal Narrative (maximum 5 pages, single-spaced):
 - a. Project category, description, and goals of the proposed capital improvement project.
 - b. Description of how the proposed project will increase equitable access to the local food system, including the target population and anticipated reach.
 - c. Clear linkage between the completed project and increased preparedness to serve the people most impacted by a food emergency through well-resourced, safe, and accessible food infrastructure
 - d. Organizational Experience as a member of the local food system projects of a similar scale and scope
- 3. Timeline: On a separate sheet, include the proposed work timeline.
- 4. Budget:
 - a. Funding proposal to include costs and descriptions for allowable expenses. Please identify how your proposed budget will be spent within the allotted timeframe.
 - b. Confirmation that the vendor can accept a purchase order and payment in check.
 - c. If the proposed budget does not cover the cost of the entire project, applicants should identify the additional funding streams that have been secured for the project.

Selection

Project will be declared ineligible if they receive a score of less than 80 points.

Categories	Total Points
 Project Proposal The proposed project fits within allowable categories. Project description, goals, and timeline are clearly outlined. The project demonstrates equity and food access for the most vulnerable households during a food emergency as core components. The proposal clearly demonstrates the link between the project and increased preparedness to serve the people most impacted by a food emergency. Timelines of work is feasible and can be completed by June 30, 2025. 	50
Individual Organization Experience The organization is a member of the City's local food system. Demonstrated success on past projects of similar scope and complexity.	20
Cost Proposal Budget is in alignment with the proposed project. Project has been appropriately cost-estimated. Funds can be expended by June 30, 2025.	30
Total Eligible Points	100

THANK YOU

City of Providence

