

September 6, 2023

Dear RACP Stakeholders,

We are excited to announce recent changes to the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) which are being implemented to provide a more efficient, effective, and transparent process for the grant awardee. This will help streamline the grant process and spur economic development throughout the Commonwealth. After a rigorous review process including internal staff reviews, analyses by the Office of Transformation, meetings with Legislators and staff, and a series of focus groups with past awardees, RACP awardees will be able to take advantage of the following improvements:

- ✓ Redesigned website. A new look to our website design at www.racp.pa.gov. The new format is intended to provide an easy to navigate, a customer-friendly experience and provide guidance throughout the grant progress.
- ✓ Streamlined application process. We are replacing the 22-tab Application & Business Plan (A&BP) with a more efficient, 10-section fillable **Project Management Proposal (PMP)** post-award application process. The PMP will focus on the basic project details, such as the proposed scope of work, budget forms, project schedule, and program compliance acknowledgement, to get your RACP project through the grant agreement drafting stage. Click on the following links for more details.
 - Project Management Proposal Handbook
 - Project Management Proposal Fillable Template

IMPORTANT! Grantees/sub-grantees that have not yet submitted a formal Application & Business Plan should now complete a PMP for the project. The PMP submission will supersede the need to submit the formal A&BP.

- ✓ Online grant processing system. All grantees and sub-grantees will be able to accept awards, sign grant documents, and submit all project related materials through our new online e-grants system (Electronic Single Application or ESA). Grantees/sub-grantee will be linked to their projects through the ESA Partner Portal.
- ✓ Updated e-Application. You'll notice a few changes to our e-Application fields as well. Please click on the below link for the new e-Application instructional guide and screenshots of the redesigned e-Application pages.
 - ✓ E-RACP Application Instructions
- ✓ Risk and Compliance. We've also streamlined and aligned the audit process to ensure timely project payment.

These changes represent the first significant changes to the RACP process in almost a decade and will make the RACP process a grantee-friendly experience that will result in projects and project payments being completed in more efficient and effective practice.

All RACP grants are administered by the **Office of the Budget (not the Department of Community and Economic Development – DCED)**. RACP Stakeholders should send letters and other inquiries directly to the **Office of the Budget** via RA-OB-RACP@pa.gov. We hope your experience with the new RACP program is positive, and please continue to provide feedback as our goal is to continually make improvements to the program.

We look forward to working with you on your next RACP funded project.



Sincerely,
Natalia Dominguez Buckley, Director
Bureau of Redevelopment, Capital & Debt