

Business District Support (BDS) Program – Frequently Asked Questions

Question 1:

Can you share if the BDS (Business District Support) grant areas have included “eligible areas” in the past, or if the resources primarily go to “priority” and “cultural” areas?

Answer:

Yes, past grants have included all types of Great Streets areas. While the City of Minneapolis prioritizes funding for “priority” and “Cultural District” areas, we have also funded some organizations that serve other “eligible areas.”

For more details, you can review the City Council reports from the past two years, which include information on applicants, funded activities, and those that did not receive funding:

- [2024 BDS Grant Report](#)
- [2023 BDS Grant Report](#)

These reports provide additional context to help you make informed decisions about applying for future BDS funding opportunities.

Question 2:

I am a 2025 ACA Vibrant Storefronts recipient. That funding covers a portion of our rent. Does that mean we are ineligible to apply for the BDS NOFA?

Answer:

No. Receiving ACA Vibrant Storefronts funding does not make your organization ineligible to apply for the BDS Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). If your proposed activities align with the BDS program guidelines, your organization is eligible to apply. Note that the Business District Support Program cannot be used for rent payments.
