



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contacts

Lynne Coan

703-255-6330 | Office

404-786-4005 | Cell

Adam Kincaid

703-255-6361 | Office

March 4, 2020

Town partners with state to provide one-on-one sessions on growth opportunities for small businesses

In an effort to help Vienna small businesses take advantage of growth opportunities by connecting with Virginia state agencies, the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity, in partnership with the Town of Vienna's economic development office, is offering free one-on-one, one-hour counseling sessions by appointment only. These sessions will be offered the third Friday of each month beginning in March.

Chris Ley, business services manager for Northern Virginia with the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity, will coordinate these meetings. The first meetings will take place from 9 am-1 pm Friday, March 20, in the second floor conference room at Town Hall. To schedule an appointment this month or in future months, Vienna businesses should email chris.ley@sbsd.virginia.gov.

"Small businesses are always thinking about ways to grow," says Economic Development Manager Natalie Monkou. "This is an opportunity for Vienna small businesses to learn about and take advantage of state programs and certifications that may help them do just that. This is a free service provided to current and future business owners and is an easy partnership that benefits businesses, the Town, and the state. We definitely want to leverage all the resources we can in support of our businesses."

Ley will discuss with small business owners and managers state certification programs and purchasing opportunities that may open them to new opportunities. She'll also have information about regional events that help connect businesses and marketing opportunities.

The state defines a small business as one that is at least 51% independently owned, controlled by one or more individuals who are U.S. citizens or legal resident aliens, and has fewer than 250 employees and/or average annual gross receipts of less than \$10 million.

To learn more about the Small Business and Supplier Diversity program, visit sbsd.virginia.gov/events/one-on-one-counseling-sessions-at-town-of-vienna-economic-development/.

###