



City of Boone Awards Small Business Grant

The Boone City Council's Economic Development Committee acted on March 4th to approve an economic development application for "The Lavender Basket". This business was approved for a \$5,000 business grant. Lavender Basket, located at 809 Keeler Street, plans to expand their existing business by offering pretzel snacks and bubble tea to shoppers in the Downtown Boone area by the middle of April.

Angelia Suffridge, co-owner explains, "This expansion aligns with our commitment to provide a unique and diverse shopping experience for our customers. We believe that these new offerings will not only attract more visitors to our shop but also contribute to the overall vibrancy of downtown Boone."

This funding comes from the "Revitalize Boone Downtown Business Grant". The goal of this economic development program is to encourage new businesses to locate in the Downtown Business District or for an existing business to enhance their product offerings in the district.

Terry Moorman, Councilmember and Chairperson for the Economic Development Committee explains, "The City of Boone is pleased to support this existing downtown business that has plans to enhance their operations in our community. The 'Revitalize Boone Downtown Business Grant' is unique funding. It requires a detailed business plan to be considered for funding. I was impressed with The Lavender Basket's plans and aggressive timeline to implement their enhancements. I was pleased to see that they plan to be open on Mondays when we have other eating options that are closed. Congratulations to them on this new chapter in their business!"

Another unique aspect of this funding program is that building ownership is not required.

Businesses interested in pursuing this funding should contact Brenda Dryer, Economic Development Director for the City of Boone for more information. Brenda can be reached at brenda@ameschamber.com or by phone at 641.420.3556.

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