



PRESS RELEASE

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Mayor announces partnership with Small Business Development Center

EAST PROVIDENCE, RI – Today, Mayor Roberto L. DaSilva and the Rhode Island Small Business Development Center (SBDC) announced a partnership to provide assistance to existing and prospective entrepreneurs. The SBDC will have a satellite office at East Providence City Hall and host office hours for private, no-cost counseling sessions and specialty topic training programs.

“East Providence is here to help our local businesses in any way possible,” DaSilva said. “Not only have we expedited the permitting process, but we will continue to support businesses in every district and offer a loan program to foster local innovation.”

“The RI Small Business Development Center is pleased to work with East Providence and its local businesses to those businesses in developing strategic business plans, preparing financial projections and accessing the capital they need to grow,” SBDC State Director Edward Huttenhower said.

The partnership will enable business owners to access both the SBDC and the city’s economic development staff during their visit. The city’s economic development team will be available to discuss incentives and loan programs. In addition, the city and the SBDC will work closely with commercial lenders and the U.S. SBA to advise existing and startup businesses about traditional and alternative financing options.

About the SBDC: The SBDC has been providing its services in the state since 1983 and has been housed at the University of Rhode Island since 2014. It is supported by the U.S. Small Business



Administration as well as the Rhode Island General Assembly. Its mission is to strengthen small businesses by providing business assistance to both existing and prospective entrepreneurs.

Appointments can be scheduled by calling 401-474-6998.

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