

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SECTION 108 LOAN GUARANTEE
CITY OF WHEELING, WV**

Notice is hereby given by the City of Wheeling, WV that it will hold a Public Hearing on the use of Section 108 Loan Guarantee Funds. The City of Wheeling has received a request for a Section 108 Loan from The Standard Cigar Works, LLC and an application has been prepared for Section 108 Loan Guarantee Funds for the development of the Ohio Valley Food and Innovation Hub to be located at 423 to 437 Market Street in Downtown Wheeling, WV. The proposed Ohio Valley Food and Innovation Hub will house the Grow Ohio warehouse space and test kitchen where small farm and food operations will have access to equipment, resources, and guidelines to grow and expand their business. The Ohio Valley Industrial and Business Development Corporation/Regional Economic Development/Co.Starters will operate its entrepreneurship and training program, including retail shop space for graduates of the program. Other users of the new Hub will include the Salud Juicery, Helping Heroes, YWCA vocational training and recovery program, and Men of Change to provide after-school programming and mentorship to minority youths. The upper floors will contain nine (9) apartments for rent, of which two (2) will be dedicated to affordable housing for veterans.

The use of Section 108 Loan Guarantee funds for this project is eligible under the CDBG Regulations in that there will be over 40 new full-time jobs created in a low- and moderate-income census tract with a poverty rate of over 62% [24 CFR 570.208 (a) (4) (v) (B)].

The Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 01, 2025, at Noon, prevailing time, in the City Council Chambers, City-County Building, 1500 Chapline Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. The City-County Building is accessible to handicapped persons. Persons requiring special accommodations to participate in the hearing may call Ms. Nancy Prager at (304) 234-3701 to make arrangements. Persons with speech and/or hearing impairments may contact the City by dialing 7-1-1.

A copy of the Proposed Section 108 Loan Application is available for public review and comment in the Dept. of Economic and Community Development Office, City-County Building, 1500 Chapline Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. The Application may be examined by the public between the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The City will accept comments on the Section 108 Application until 5:30 PM, April 1, 2025, at which time, the City Council will consider approval of the proposed Section 108 Loan application at the regular council meeting in the City Council Chambers.

All interested persons, organizations, firms, and others are encouraged to attend this Public Hearing and will be offered the opportunity to give oral testimony and/or present written comments concerning the proposed use of the Section 108 Loan funds. Written comments may be addressed to the attention of Ms. Nancy Prager, Director of Economic and Community Development of Wheeling, City-County Building, 1500 Chapline Street, Wheeling, WV 26003, or by calling (304) 234-3701.

Robert Herron, City Manager
Wheeling, WV