

**1. Provide a brief (1 – 2 sentences) description of the project:**

We are excited to introduce a unique and personalized tea experience to the local community members and tea connoisseurs in Amityville, NY. As an upcoming unlaunched business, we aim to create a space where individuals can indulge in the art of tea and escape from their daily routines.

**4. Describe in detail the proposed improvements:**

To convert the 1899 Firehouse into a fully functional food establishment. We will need a section to create a functional kitchen with proper plumbing that will include - refrigeration, cooking equipment and prep space, food protection equipment, storage facilities, water heater, food prep sinks, ware washing, hand washing facilities, mop sink, dipper wells, exterior garbage storage. We plan on creating an outdoor tranquil Garden Oasis. This outdoor space could feature lush greenery, calming fountains, and seating areas where guests can relax and enjoy their tea amidst nature. This serene retreat would provide a tranquil escape and enhance the tea house's soothing atmosphere.

**6. Describe the expected impact your proposed project will have on the building, the occupying or future business(es), and the community:**

The proposed improvements for Ami Tea House will have a significant impact on both the building itself and the surrounding community.

Firstly, the building will be transformed into a haven of tranquility and elegance. With an expanded and enriched tea selection, the tea house will become a destination for tea enthusiasts seeking unique and rare teas from around the world. The introduction of tea tasting experiences and themed afternoon teas will add an immersive and captivating element, making the tea house a hub for tea education, cultural exploration, and indulgence. The curated collection of exquisite tea accessories will enhance the retail aspect of the tea house, offering guests the opportunity to bring a piece of the enchanting experience home.

As the tea house evolves into a refined and captivating space, it will draw in a diverse range of visitors from the community. Local tea lovers, tourists, and those seeking a serene escape will be enticed to explore the authentic and indulgent tea offerings. The community, in turn, will benefit from the increased footfall and investment in the area. Ami Tea House will contribute to the growth of the local economy, attracting visitors who will also spend time exploring neighboring businesses and attractions.

Additionally, by offering tea tastings, educational sessions, and bespoke tea blends, Ami Tea House will foster a deeper appreciation for the art of tea within the community. Residents will have the opportunity to expand their knowledge and understanding of tea, cultivating a greater appreciation for this ancient and cherished beverage. This newfound appreciation can inspire individuals to incorporate tea into their daily lives, promoting wellness, mindfulness, and relaxation.

Furthermore, the creation of a tranquil garden oasis will not only provide a serene retreat within the tea house but will also add aesthetic value to the community. Those passing by will be captivated by the beauty and serenity of the garden, offering a tranquil respite in the midst of a bustling city. This added green space will contribute to the overall ambiance of the area, making it more visually pleasing and inviting.

In summary, the proposed improvements for Ami Tea House will transform the building into a refined tea destination, attracting tea enthusiasts and visitors from the community. The combination of authentic tea offerings, immersive experiences, beautiful tea accessories, and a serene garden oasis will enrich the community's understanding and appreciation for tea while also benefiting the local economy. Ami Tea House will become a cherished establishment that encourages relaxation, indulgence, and a deeper connection to the art of tea.

**15. This is a reimbursement-based grant, which means the applicant will pay for the project out of pocket and submit requests for reimbursement upon completion of the project. If the applicant does not have funds available for the entire project, explain how the project will be financed. Proof of financial resources required as an attachment. See Required Attached Requirements Below:**

The financing for the proposed improvements to Ami Tea House can be achieved through a combination of sources. Here are some potential avenues for securing the necessary funds:

- Owner's Investment: The tea house's owner(s) can contribute their own funds towards the project. This initial investment indicates their commitment and belief in the potential success of the enhancements.
- Small Business Loans: Securing a small business loan from a financial institution or a local community development program can provide the necessary capital. The loan can be obtained based on the tea house's business plan, projected revenues, and the owner's creditworthiness.