



Cambridge Community
Development Department
<http://www.cambridgema.gov/>



The **Community Development Department** is the planning agency for the City of Cambridge. This tutorial will show how to use the CDD website to find affordable housing, learn information about the city's parks and even use "Quick Links" to explore the city.

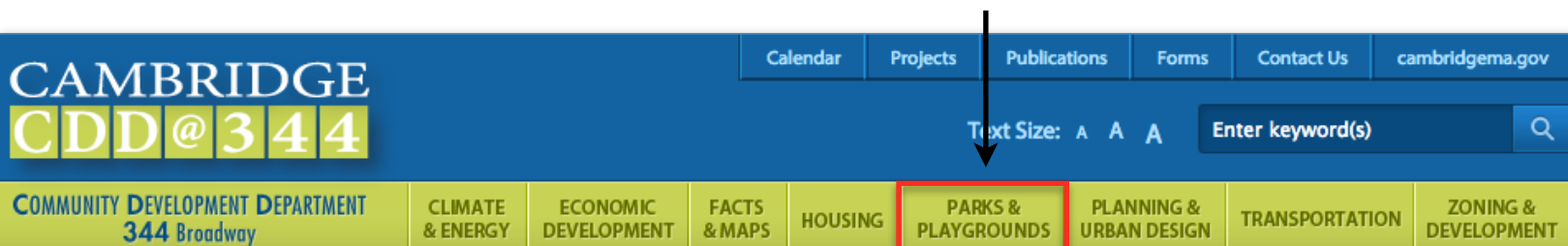
NOTE for Small Businesses: Jump ahead to the bottom of this tutorial to find out what resources are available at the CDD to help entrepreneurs!



To begin, type in <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD> into your search bar and you should see a homepage similar to the image above

Using CDD for Parks Information

Let's take a look at how to access info about Cambridge's parks. From the CDD homepage, click on the "Parks & Playgrounds" tab



The CDD has tons of information about Cambridge’s parks and the projects going on in the city’s open spaces. Here is the Parks and Playgrounds homepage. Use the links in the box on the left-hand side of the screen to explore the open spaces in your area.

Parks and Playgrounds

[Open Space Map Gallery](#)

[Parks and Playgrounds Interactive Map](#)

[Waterplay Map](#)

[Park Information](#)

[Permits and Maintenance](#)

[Park Projects](#)

[Open Space Planning](#)

[Privately Owned Public Spaces](#)

[Farmer Markets](#)

[Contact Us](#)


CDD > Parks and Playgrounds

Parks and Playgrounds

Cambridgeport Parks Improvements

The City is redesigning and renovating Alberico Park, Fulmore Park, and Old Morse Park in the Cambridgeport neighborhood. Find out what will be included in these new and improved parks!

Three Cambridgeport Parks Design Process



Quick Links

I'd like to learn more about...

Select a Topic


Neighborhood or Square

Select One

Current Projects...

Select One

Explore the City



Click the map to explore Cambridge

From the links in the Parks and Playgrounds box, click on **Park Information** to find photos, descriptions of the activities and features available and summaries of improvements made to your local park.

From the Park Information section, select which park you want to learn more about. Let’s take a look at Cambridge Common as an example.
Click on the “Cambridge Common” link from the list.

Selected Parks and Playgrounds

- Alden Playground**
Alden Playground is located in Agassiz neighborhood at the intersection of Oxford Street and Sacramento Street, across from the Baldwin School.
- Cambridge Common**
Cambridge Common is a 16 acre park, located outside of Harvard Square and surrounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Garden Street and Waterhouse Street. The Common has a long and colorful history, and is an important local resource as well as a tourist attraction.

Here you can read about the latest updates and description of Cambridge Common. Click on the **Images** tab for photos of the space or select **Contact** to learn who to call or email about park maintenance, playing field reservation or hosting an event in the park!

Cambridge Common

The Cambridge Common is a major city park as well as a National Historic Landmark. The 16 acre park which is centrally located outside of Harvard Square surrounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Garden Street and Waterhouse Street has a long and colorful history, and is an important local resource as well as a tourist attraction.

The Common contains the popular [Alexander W. Kemp Playground](#) re-built in 2009, a playing field, lawns, historic monuments, and pathways. The park acts as a haven for neighborhood people who want a place to relax in the sun or on a bench under a tree. The Common is also significant in that over 10,000 pedestrians and cyclists use the paths and sidewalks on a daily basis.

The Latest

Description

Images

Contact

The ongoing Cambridge Common and Flagstaff Park project aims to rehabilitate all aspects of the Common as well as improve conditions for all users of these parks and those travelling along this section of Massachusetts Avenue, from Garden Street to Cambridge Street. It also seeks to unify the historic landscape of the Common by simplifying the vocabulary of the design.

A photograph showing a person riding a bicycle on a paved path in a park. The path is lined with large, leafy trees, and the scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day. The person is wearing a white shirt and dark pants, and is riding away from the camera.

Parks and Playgrounds

- Open Space Map Gallery
- Parks and Playgrounds Interactive Map
- Waterplay Map
- Park Information
- Permits and Maintenance
- Park Projects
- Open Space Planning
- Privately Owned Public Spaces
- Farmer Markets
- Contact Us

Another great resource to use is the **Parks and Playgrounds Interactive Map**. Click on the link from the Parks and Playgrounds tab, just like we did to find Park Information.

3

Use the **Interactive Map** to discover all the great park activities in Cambridge!

Map Legend


Public Park	Baseball (High School)	Ice Skating (Outdoor)	Tennis
Privately-Owned Park	Baseball (Little League)	Soccer	Track and Field
Waterplay	Basketball	Softball	Off-Leash Areas
Playground	Football	Street Hockey	Dedicated area
Community Gardens	Golf	Swimming (Outdoor)	Morning hours
	Ice Skating (Indoor)	Table Tennis	Shared use



Zoom in
and out with
the + and -

Clicking on a section of the map will give you a pop-up box with information about the park like the image below:

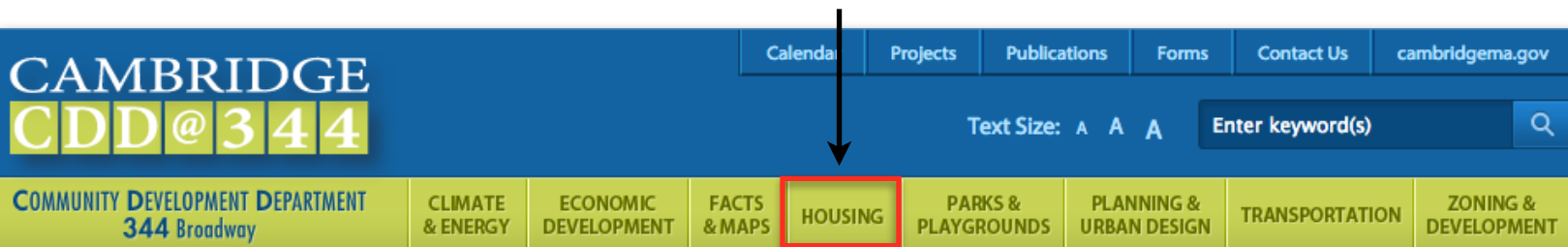
[Park Info](#) [Uses](#) [Contact](#) [More Info](#)



Dana Park
City Park
Magazine St / McTernan St
Hours: **Dawn to 11pm**

Using CDD for Affordable Housing

CDD is also a great resource for information about affordable housing in Cambridge. From the CDD homepage, click on the “Housing” tab

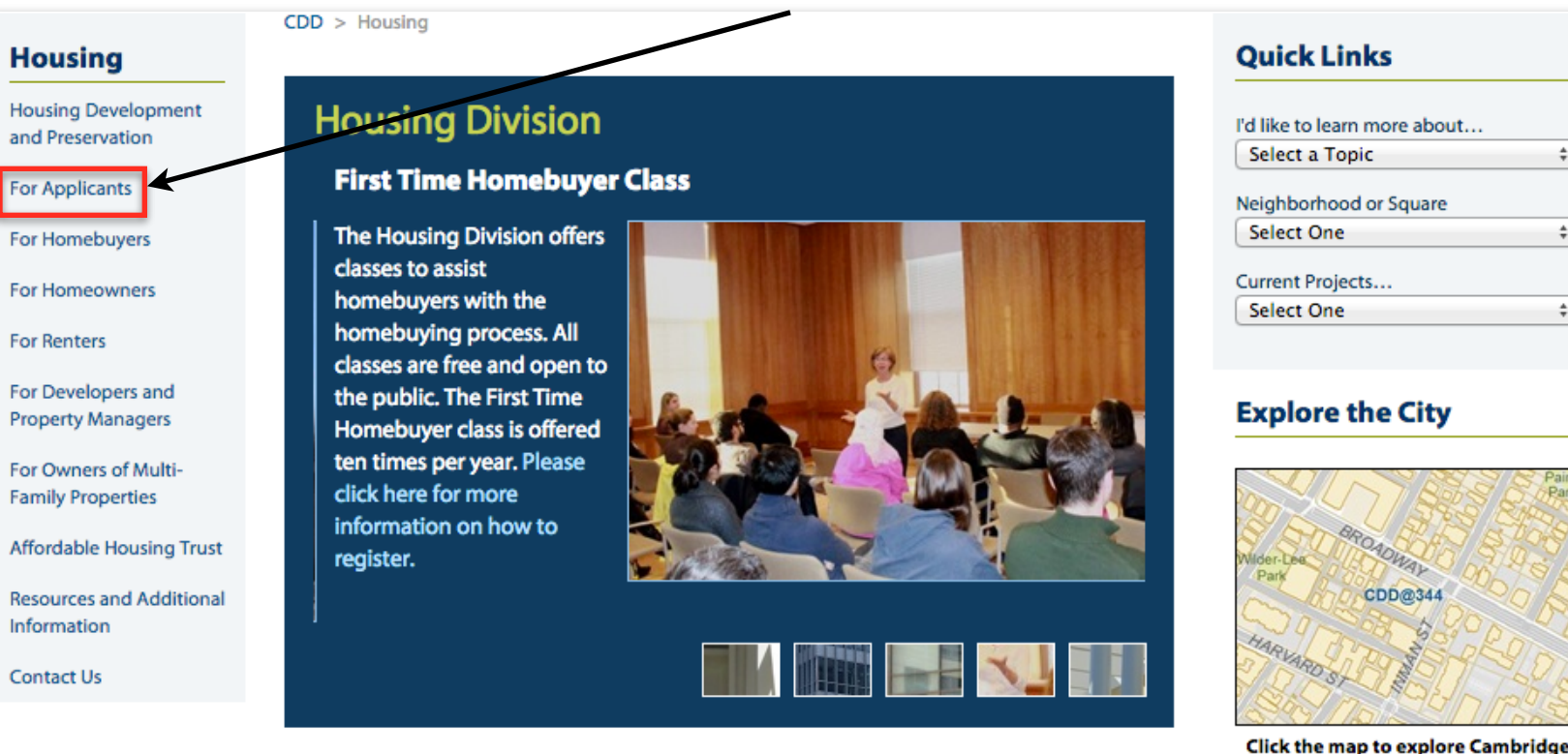


The Housing Division works to meet the housing needs of low-, moderate-, and middle-income residents, and offers access to affordable housing units created through City programs. This tutorial will show you just some of the great tools to learn about affordable housing in Cambridge.

For more information you can:

- Explore the pages of information in the Housing section of the website, including program guidelines, application forms, Frequently Asked Questions, contact names, and more.
- Attend one of the information sessions about the city's rental and homeownership programs.
- email housing@cambridgema.gov and send your questions to the Housing Division. Or you

If you want to apply for affordable housing click the “**For Applicants**” link in the Housing box on the left:



There are housing units available for middle-income rental as well as opportunities to become a homeowner, but here let's focus on the **Rental Applicant Pool** and the **Other Available Units** links


CDD > Housing > For Applicants

For Applicants

- Middle-Income Rental
- 1. Rental Applicant Pool
- Homeownership Resale Pool
- 2. Other Available Units

For Applicants

Are you looking for affordable housing in Cambridge? The Housing Division offers both rental and ownership opportunities. To be considered for these programs, you must complete and submit an application along with all



Quick Links

I'd like to learn more about...

Select a Topic

Neighborhood or Square

Select One

Current Projects...

Select One

Explore the City

1. Click **Rental Applicant Pool** to apply for affordable rental housing. The CDD maintains this pool of applicants to assist owners in making units available to eligible households. After clicking the Rental Applicant Pool link you should download a Preliminary Application and submit it to the Housing Division. Read the Rental Pool FAQ for more info:

[Rental Applicant Pool](#)
[Rental Pool FAQ](#)

Rental Applicant Pool

The Housing Division administers the Rental Applicant Pool (RAP) for households




2. Click **Other Available Units** to learn about other programs and housing providers such as Non-Profit Rental Housing, Public Housing, Privately Owned Affordable Housing and Limited Equity Coops:

[Rental Applicant Pool](#)
[Homeownership Resale Pool](#)
[Other Available Units](#)

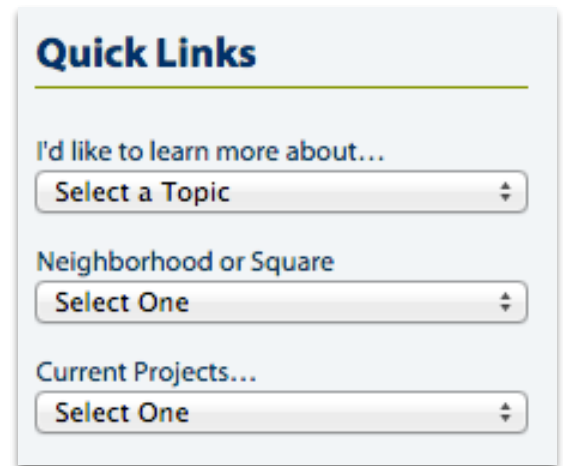
Other Available Units

The City of Cambridge accepts applications for the Rental Applicant Pool and Homebuyer Resale Pool on an ongoing basis. These pools are used to find tenants and



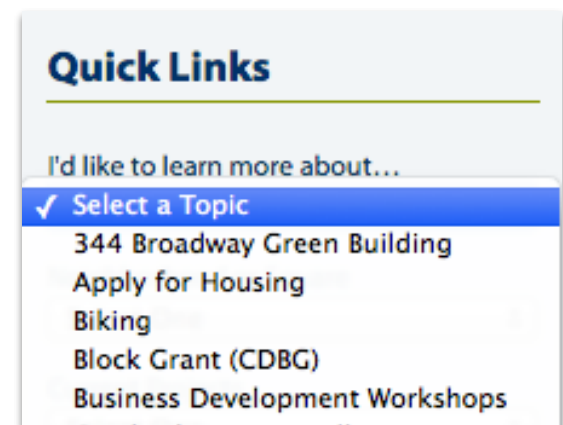
Using the CDD Quick Links Box

Whatever you want to use the CDD website for, the Quick Links box can be found on the right-side of any of the pages to quickly navigate to the page you are looking for.



The screenshot shows a light blue box titled "Quick Links" with a green underline. Below the title are three dropdown menus. The first is labeled "I'd like to learn more about..." and has a "Select a Topic" option. The second is labeled "Neighborhood or Square" and has a "Select One" option. The third is labeled "Current Projects..." and has a "Select One" option.

Browse to your topic by choosing what you need under "I'd like to learn more about..." by clicking, for example, "Apply for Housing."

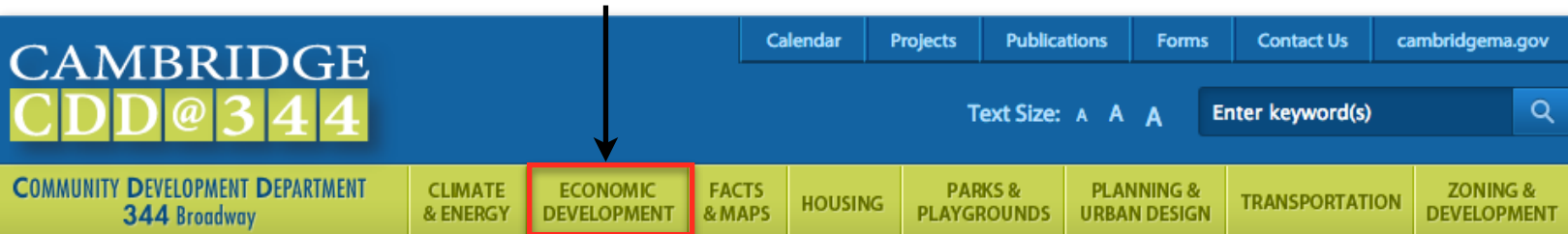


The screenshot shows the "Quick Links" box with the "I'd like to learn more about..." dropdown menu open. The menu is blue and white, with a checkmark next to "Select a Topic". Below it are several options: "344 Broadway Green Building", "Apply for Housing", "Biking", "Block Grant (CDBG)", and "Business Development Workshops".

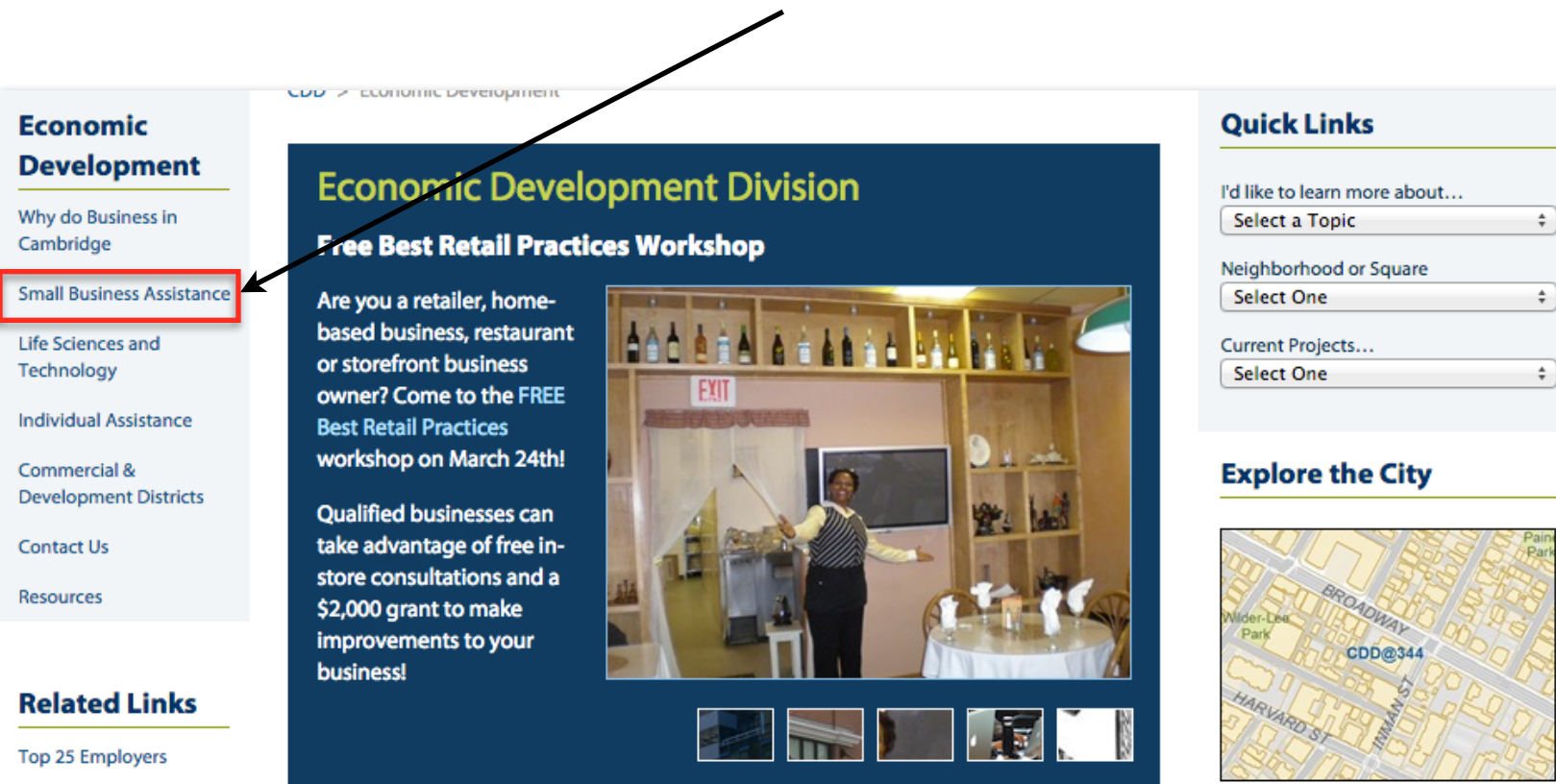
The Quick Links box can also give you the latest information on your area's projects and resources by selecting the "Neighborhood or Square" or "Current Projects..." drop-down menus

Using the CDD Small Businesses Assistance Subset

The Economic Development Division (EDD) supports Cambridge's small, women and minority-owned businesses. To navigate to this section of the site click on the "Economic Development" tab from the top menu:



Let's pay attention in particular to the "**Small Business Assistance**" link under the Economic Development box on the left-hand side of the page:



Explore the sections of the Small Business Assistance page for TONS of helpful resources to help your business thrive!

Business Development Workshops

will teach you skills such as Search Engine Optimization to get your small business to #1 on Google Search Results.



Storefront Improvement Programs

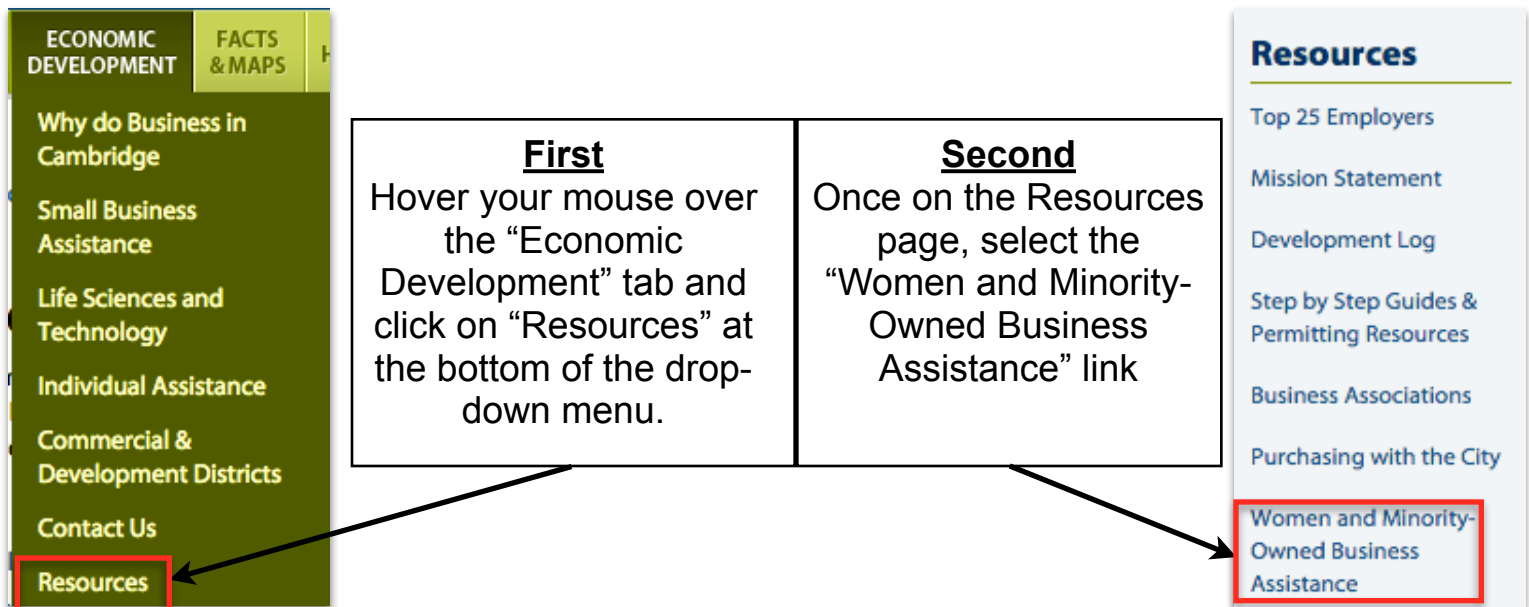
provide grants and reimbursement funding to improve the physical appearance of independent businesses



Step-By-Step Guides & Permitting Resources are freely available to teach everything from starting a business in Cambridge to applying for permits and licenses

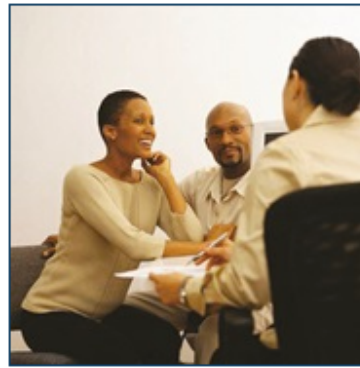


Looking for **Women and Minority-Owned Business Assistance**?



Here are some ways to take advantage of this site:

Sign-up for **The Cambridge Women and Minority-Owned Business Directory** to market, network and connect minority and women-owned businesses with companies and institutions looking for opportunities to work with this specific business community.



Get certified with the **State Supplier and Diversity Office (SDO)**. Each year state agencies purchase millions of dollars worth of products and services from businesses certified as minority or women-owned. To participate in these opportunities get certified as 51% minority or business-owned!