



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Sarah Makuta  
301-836-1516 x416  
[smakuta@fovndry.com](mailto:smakuta@fovndry.com)

## City of Greenbelt, Maryland's Cooperative Businesses Set Example During National 'Co-op' Month

**Greenbelt, Md.** (October 28, 2021) – October is national cooperative (co-op) month and serves as a time to reflect upon the shared principles of cooperative businesses. In the [City of Greenbelt](#), cooperative businesses are a long-standing tradition, and their resiliency shined throughout the darkest days of the COVID pandemic. Greenbelt's co-ops are an example of why co-ops make the U.S. economy stronger.

"A co-op is a democratic approach to business, and it operates in the interest of the community members," said Charise Liggins, Greenbelt's economic development coordinator. "In the city of Greenbelt, we are committed to strengthening the greater community we serve, and co-ops thrive here. We welcome more cooperative business opportunities here."

Co-ops have played a critical role building wealth since 1844. According to the [International Cooperative Alliance](#), today co-op members represent at least 12% of humanity. In the City of Greenbelt there are multiple co-ops, including the [Greenbelt Federal Credit Union](#) and the [New Deal Café](#).

"Working in a Co-op means working together to achieve a common goal," said Cindy Comproni, Treasurer of Greenbelt Federal Credit Union. "We're providing financial services to our community."

[Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy](#) flourished throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to grow in popularity. Its mission is to provide food, pharmacy and other consumer services to its members and the community and is currently owned and operated by nearly 11,000 members.

"Greenbelt is essentially built for cooperation," said Dan Gillotte, general manager of Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy. "The city is civic minded and was designed to be for the people to meet their needs."

[Research shows](#) that countries with more co-ops experienced fewer job losses during the Great Recession and more job growth following the economic crisis. According to [Community-wealth.org](#) there are 64,017 cooperatives across the U.S. operating within a range of diverse industries including banking, agriculture, utilities, and childcare.

To learn more about how businesses are thriving in Greenbelt visit our [Business Spotlights](#), and sign up for the [Greenbelt Business Brief Monthly Newsletter](#).

###

Located in Prince George's County, Greenbelt, MD is a welcoming and diverse community. The city offers many amenities and programs for people of all ages, fostering a safe and friendly environment. Visit the City of Greenbelt [website](#) to learn more.