



NEWS RELEASE

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City of Wheat Ridge Launches Small Business Stabilization Program

WHEAT RIDGE, Colo. April 9, 2020 – The City of Wheat Ridge City Council approved a new Small Business Stabilization Program providing \$250,000 in grants to small businesses in Wheat Ridge who have been significantly impacted due to the COVID-19 emergency. Applications are available on the City [website](#) and the deadline for submission is Friday, April 17, 2020, at noon.

“This new grant program is just one of the ways Wheat Ridge is supporting our local businesses,” stated Patrick Goff, Wheat Ridge city manager. “We have created a [Sales Tax Deferment program](#), Localworks has an [interest free loan program](#), and City staff and the Wheat Ridge Business Association have created two websites; [Biz-Ridge.com](#) and [Eat-Ridge.com](#) as well as a business toolkit. More information for businesses is also available on the City website designated for [Business Continuity and Support](#).

“We recognize the impact COVID-19 is having on all of us and wanted to do what we can to help our businesses remain viable until we have contained the spread of the virus and can return to business as usual,” continued Goff.

Criteria for the new Wheat Ridge Business Stabilization Program include: for-profit independently owned companies physically located in the City of Wheat Ridge, in operation as of Jan. 1, 2020, and in good standing with the City as of Feb. 1, 2020; businesses who have fewer than 25 full-time employees; and those who have a verifiable hardship directly due to COVID-19. Additional criteria are listed on the application available on the City’s [website](#). In addition to the application, applicants must submit a copy of their current business license and W-9 form. Grant funds are intended to be used for operational needs, lease or mortgage payments, payroll, and/or supplies and services. Upon receipt, the applications will be reviewed by a Task Force including City Councilmember Zach Urban, City Treasurer Chris Miller, Wheat Ridge Economic Development Manager Steve Art and representatives from the Wheat Ridge Chamber of Commerce, the Wheat Ridge Business Association, Wheat Ridge Business District, and Wheat Ridge Localworks. The deadline for application is Friday, April 17 at noon. The Task Force anticipates notifying approved applicants by April 24, 2020. Applications are available on the [City website](#) and can only be accepted using this submission process.

The **City of Wheat Ridge**, located west of Denver with a population of 31,000 residents, is home to a mix of retail/commercial businesses and unique residential neighborhoods. Wheat Ridge is a vibrant community in a prime location, providing easy access to the Denver metro area and to recreation west into the mountains. The City was recently ranked Top Smallest City by the Economic Development Council of Colorado. Info about Wheat Ridge [ci.wheatridge.co.us](#)

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