



## NEWS RELEASE

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### City of Wheat Ridge Announces Second Round of Small Business Stabilization Grants

**WHEAT RIDGE, Colo. May 20, 2020** – The City of Wheat Ridge City Council has approved a second round of Small Business Stabilization Program grants making an additional \$250,000 in grants available to small businesses in Wheat Ridge who have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 emergency. Businesses are eligible to receive funding from the grant program of up to a total of \$5,000 combined from the first and second round of grants. Applications are available [online](#) and the deadline for submission is Friday, June 5, 2020, at noon.

“The City of Wheat Ridge is proud to announce additional grant funds to support our local businesses as the Jefferson County Public Health Safer at Home order continues to impact those not yet allowed to open or those operating with decreased opportunities for revenue,” stated Patrick Goff, Wheat Ridge city manager.

“The Wheat Ridge Small Business Stabilization Program is funded by the federal CARES Act approved by Congress and made available to the City from Jefferson County. Support to local businesses is one of the eligible expenses under the CARES Act. It is thanks to these additional financial resources that Wheat Ridge is able to dedicate these grants for use by our business community,” Goff continued.

Criteria for the 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 which is available on the City’s [website](#). In addition to the application, applicants must submit a W-9 form. The 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, and representatives from the Wheat Ridge Chamber of Commerce, the Wheat Ridge Business Association, the Wheat Ridge Business District, and Wheat Ridge Localworks. The deadline for application is Friday, June 5 at noon. The Task Force will notify approved applicants by Friday, June 12, 2020. Applications are available on the [City website](#) and can only be accepted using this submission process. Questions can be directed to Steve Art, Wheat Ridge economic development manager [sart@ci.wheatridge.co.us](mailto:sart@ci.wheatridge.co.us)

In addition to the grants, the City of Wheat Ridge is providing face masks to critical businesses for their customers and created a [Sales Tax Deferral program](#) spring payments, Localworks offered an [interest free loan program](#), and City staff and the Wheat Ridge Business Association created two websites; [Biz-Ridge.com](#) and [Eat-Ridge.com](#) as well as a business toolkit. The Small Business Grant application, Mask Request form and other information for businesses is available on the City website designated for [Business Continuity and Support](#).

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](http://ci.wheatridge.co.us)

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