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## City of San Diego to Offer Emergency Grant Funds for Storm-Impacted Small Businesses and Nonprofits

GRANTS OF UP TO \$5,000 WILL HELP NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESSES GET BACK ON THEIR FEET

SAN DIEGO – In an effort to support local businesses impacted by this week's record storm, the City of San Diego will launch an emergency response grant to provide funds for up to 100 small businesses and nonprofits. The Business Emergency Response & Resilience Grant will make financial assistance available with up to \$2,500 per business and up to \$5,000 for businesses and nonprofits in the federally designated Promise Zone and Low-Moderate Income Census tract areas.

The application period will open in mid-February. The City is encouraging business owners to track any expenses related to storm recovery.

We are doing everything we can to ease the burden on residents and small businesses that were in the path of this natural disaster," said Mayor Todd Gloria, "Having our neighborhood businesses up and running is important for the community's recovery from the devastation, and I encourage business owners to start preparing to apply so we can get these grants out to them as quickly as possible."

Eligible expenses for the grant funds include supplies and labor for storm cleanup efforts; repairs and equipment replacement not covered by insurance; employee wages; and insurance deductibles. The current budget for this program is \$370,000 through the City's Small Business Enhancement Program.

In order to qualify for this grant, business owners will need to demonstrate they were impacted by the storm and have a current Business Tax Certificate on file with the City. Only businesses with 12 or fewer employees are eligible.

City staff will proactively reach out to businesses and community groups to share information about the upcoming application period for the Business Emergency Response & Resilience Grant, with materials provided in multiple languages.

Mayor Gloria is also working to Secure Federal Disaster Relief for residents who have suffered from property damage. Affected residents are encouraged to fill out a voluntary online <u>survey</u> that San Diego County will use to determine the residential financial losses caused by the flooding and that will help the County qualify for federal disaster relief.

For additional information on storm response and recovery, visit <u>SanDiego.gov/storm</u>.