



CITY OF SAN DIEGO
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM STEPHEN WHITBURN
THIRD DISTRICT

STATEMENT

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**STATEMENT ON PASSAGE OF EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE
FEE RELIEF TO POLICE-REGULATED BUSINESSES**

Today, I am grateful to my Council colleagues for passing the Emergency Ordinance to Defer Fees and Renew Permits Related to Police-Regulated Occupations and Businesses, brought forward by my office. With this action in place, the thousands of businesses that are subject to these fees will see some relief during these challenging economic times.

This emergency ordinance will defer payments for permits related to police-regulated occupations and businesses for three months, automatically extend permits expiring between March 31, 2021 and February 28, 2022, and reduce fees and assessments related to police-regulated occupations and businesses by 25%.

Many local businesses that fall under the police-regulated category, including restaurants, nightclubs, live entertainment venues, comedy clubs, bowling alleys, bingo halls, second hand stores, pedicabs and more, have been unable to operate, or had to do so in a limited capacity during the entirety of the COVID-19 pandemic. With revenues down in many of these small, locally-owned businesses, I am glad that we were able to find this way to lessen their economic burden.

Understanding that this action alone will not solve all the issues our small businesses are facing, it is a step in the right direction. I look forward to continuing to work with our small business community, the backbone of San Diego's economy, to seek additional solutions as we recover from the economic crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council President Pro Tem Stephen Whitburn represents San Diego's Third Council District, which includes the communities of Downtown, Little Italy, Bankers Hill, Mission Hills, Middletown, Hillcrest, University Heights, North Park, Normal Heights, Old Town, South Park, and Golden Hill.

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