



NEWS RELEASE

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Contacts

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Wheat Ridge Provides Guidance and Support for Reopening of Businesses

WHEAT RIDGE, Colo., June 2, 2020 -- The City of Wheat Ridge is supporting businesses by providing guidance for reopening with modifications to utilize outdoor space as well as an equipment purchase and rental reimbursement program created in collaboration with Localworks.

As of May 9, 2020, the City of Wheat Ridge is following the Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) Safer-at-Home order. Under this order, some businesses may reopen following specific state and county guidance. JCPH has issued Frequently Asked Questions that direct businesses to coordinate with the City, specifically pertaining to outdoor operations and interior modifications. The City acknowledges that businesses may want or need to expand into outside space. Guidelines for modification of outdoor space were created and summarize temporary relief being offered through October 31, 2020, by Wheat Ridge Executive Order 2020-2. Under Order 2020-2, the City is implementing temporary relief from certain city requirements for outdoor business functions, building permits, and liquor license premise modifications. [Guidelines for modifications](#) to outdoor space are available online.

The changes included in the outdoor modifications guidelines:

- Outdoor space is permitted for business operations on private property
- In most cases, permits are not required
- The City will quickly review liquor license premises modifications (associated state fees are eligible for reimbursement)

The guidelines and the relief offered by Executive Order 2020-2 are subject to change. The guidelines may be used in preparation for reopening but in no way allow business operations that are not otherwise authorized by the state and county. Reopening of bars and restaurants for on-premise dining (inside or outside) will be determined by the state and county.

An equipment rental and purchase reimbursement program for businesses has also been established in collaboration with Localworks through CARES Act funds. This program is designed to help businesses offset the costs associated with increasing their footprint to serve customers safely with good distancing practices in place. To apply <https://wearelocalworks.org/business-reopening-assistance-program/>

For additional business resources <https://bit.ly/WRBizContinuity>. For questions, contact Wheat Ridge Economic Development Manager Steve Art at 720-454-9040 or sart@ci.wheatridge.co.us.

About The City of Wheat Ridge

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. Info about Wheat Ridge ci.wheatridge.co.us

About Localworks

Localworks is a community-based, non-profit development corporation advancing Wheat Ridge as a vibrant and sustainable community. Localworks is comprised of members who contribute to a movement of positive progress for Wheat Ridge. Both community and economic development work is done through activities and investments affecting the housing, businesses, policies and identity of the City of Wheat Ridge. www.WeAreLocalworks.org

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