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RESOLUTION NO. 2022-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL TO APPROPRIATE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000,000 FOR A TEMPORARY COVID SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, in March 2020, federal, state and local government officials issued various declarations of public health states of emergency in response to the global spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected many Albany businesses; and

WHEREAS, the City has been allocated \$4,711,702 in American Rescue Plan Act funds; and

WHEREAS, use of said funds is prescriptive in nature per the terms of the American Rescue Plan Act; and

WHEREAS, aiding businesses that endured long, mandated closures, as well as other businesses in the community that were hardest hit by the pandemic falls in the US Treasury Interim Final Rule; and

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2022, the City's Economic Development Committee provided input on potential qualifications for a small business program and an Albany Business Recovery Survey was conducted between May 27 – June 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, a Temporary COVID Small Business Assistance Grant Program will award grants up to \$20,000 but not exceed 50% of a business' 2019 revenue; and

WHEREAS, grant awards will be based on tiered criteria that give preference to businesses that were closed due to state mandates for long periods of time. Businesses may qualify based on the following tiered criteria:

- 1. Businesses that were completely closed by public health mandates for at least 6 months during the pandemic
- 2. Businesses that were not forced to close but suffered revenue losses of greater than 50% in 2020 compared to 2019
- 3. Businesses that incurred substantial expense due to pandemic-related safety measures to stay operational (at least 10% of annualized revenue)

WHEREAS, the program will be structured so that necessary documentation is provided at the time of application and subsequent follow up or reporting will be kept to a minimum to reduce the burden on businesses and the amount of ongoing staff time; and

WHEREAS, qualifications to apply to the Temporary COVID Small Business Assistance Grant Program should include but will not be limited to businesses that have a City of Albany Business license, a brick-and-mortar presence and operate as a for profit business; and

WHEREAS, the program will be structured in two rounds, after the first round, the program will be assessed based on existing COVID needs of the business community; and

WHEREAS, pending the outcome of the long-term parklet program, funds may also be used for the implementation of new safety and access design elements for long-term parklets.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council appropriates \$1,000,000 in ARPA funds for a Temporary COVID Small Business Assistance Grant Program.

PRESTON JORDAN, MAYOR



City of Albany

1000 San Pablo Avenue • Albany, California 94706 (510) 528-5710 • www.albanyca.org

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-09

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 7th day of February, 2022, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Gary, McQuaid, Nason, Tiedemann and Mayor Jordan

NOES: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this 8th

day of February, 2022.

Anne Hsu CITY CLERK

The City of Albany is dedicated to maintaining its small town ambiance, responding to the needs of a diverse community, and providing a safe, healthy and sustainable community.