

Dear Local Business Owner:

Many businesses were impacted by the Alameda Fire. We know that community recovery will take a long time—and our network of business support services are here for the long-haul. If you have been directly impacted, we want to make sure that you have every chance to succeed whether you choose to clean-up and rebuild at your prior location, find a new location in the Rogue Valley, or take another route entirely.

Below are some resources and information that may be helpful to you at this time.

In addition, we want to stay in communication with you as any additional assistance for businesses may come available. Please sign up to receive regular updates at <http://roguebusiness.org/#subscribe>.

Insurance

Important reminder: Reach out to your insurance agent as soon as possible to see whether you have business property and business interruption insurance, and to start the claims process. These benefits can pay to replace your lost equipment, help pay for payroll, and even pay for a temporary work space while you rebuild. The Governor has ordered extended grace periods for filing claims as the result of these fires.

If you need help or have questions about your insurance, the Department of Consumer and Business Services Division of Financial Regulation provides free help for Oregonians who have questions or complaints about their insurance. Contact a consumer advocate at 888-877-4894.

DCBS also has tips for filing a fire claim on their website:
<https://dfr.oregon.gov/insure/home/storm/Pages/wildfires.aspx>

FEMA Assistance

FEMA federal disaster individual assistance applies to households only. If your home was impacted, FEMA can help with uninsured losses and housing assistance. To register, go to: <https://www.disasterassistance.gov/> or call 800-621-3362. (Even if only your business was impacted, it is probably a good idea to register. FEMA may be able to connect you with other resources, such as SBA emergency lending, see below.)

Debris Removal

ALL commercial construction debris is assumed to be potentially hazardous due to asbestos. At this time we are determining whether any debris removal assistance will be available to businesses. Please sign up at roguebusiness.org to receive updates. Both Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Rogue Disposal have additional information about debris removal:
<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wildfires/Pages/After-the-Fire.aspx>
<https://roguedisposal.com/index.php?p=resources/education/environment/safely-disposing-of-fire-debris>

Property Taxes

Jackson County Assessor's office has a form to request a reduction in property taxes because of the fires impacts. Commercial Appraisal and Assessment – Including Disaster Relief -541-774-

6099; personal Property – 541-774-6094 or Personalproperty@jacksoncounty.org; or visit <https://jacksoncountyor.org/assessor/General/News-Information/almeda-south-obenchain-greenway-mm-24-et-al-fires-disaster-tax-relief-1>

Business Services

Worksource Oregon offers a variety of programs to help employers and employees.

- The [Oregon Work Share](#) program can help by allowing an employer and employee to maintain a relationship and avoid a layoff. Employers must apply for a Work Share plan by contacting the UI Special Programs Center at 1-800-436-6191 (toll-free) or you can learn more about the program online at www.OregonWorkShare.org.
- Contact or visit your local [WorkSource Oregon Center](#).
 - Medford: (541) 776-6060

Your local Small Business Development Center (SBDC) can provide free advising services to help your business come up with a recovery plan, assess your economic injury, improve your financials, and apply for loans, if needed. Counseling is confidential and at no charge.

- SOU SBDC: <https://sbdc.sou.edu/> or call (541) 552-8300.

Help identifying a temporary location to continue operations.

- To research available temporary space to continue business operations, you may want to connect with a Rogue Valley broker search by area and type of property on <https://www.loopnet.com/commercial-real-estate-brokers/>.
- Several local organizations are thinking about creating some temporary spaces for displaced businesses. To be sure to hear about these efforts, please sign-up for updates at <http://roguebusiness.org/>

Potential lending sources. If your primary bank or credit union is unable to help, there are other options:

- The Small Business Administration has made Economic Injury Disaster Lending (EIDL) available to businesses impacted by the Alameda and Obenchain fires. To learn more, contact your local SBDC (above), visit <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/>, or access assistance through the SBA Virtual Recovery Center.
 - Virtual Business Recovery Center and Virtual Disaster Loan Outreach Center
 - 7 days a week, Monday – Sunday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. EDT (5 a.m. – 5 p.m. Pacific Time)
 - FOCWAssistance@sba.gov (800) 659-2955Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/>. Applicants may also contact SBA’s Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information.
- ✓ **Business Oregon, the State’s Economic Development Agency** has several lending programs that could help; interested businesses should contact Blair Sundell at (503) 798-7307 or Blair.Sundell@oregon.gov or visit <https://www.oregon4biz.com/How-We-Can-Help/Finance-Programs/>.
- ✓ **SORED I, the Region’s Economic Development Organization**, manages a revolving loan fund that businesses in Jackson and Josephine Counties can access; interested

businesses should contact Noland Alston at (541) 773-8946 or noland@soredi.org.

- ✓ **Illinois Valley Community Development Organization** headquartered in Josephine County offers microloans primarily to businesses in Josephine County and Jackson County; for more information, please visit <https://ivcdo.org/our-work/revolving-loan-fund/>.

This document was produced as a collaboration between:

