



# CITY OF PLAINFIELD

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### PLAINFIELD PROVIDES GRANT FUNDS FOR BUSINESSES IMPACTED BY FIRE

**Plainfield, New Jersey** - On Tuesday, February 7, 2023, a fire in downtown Plainfield damaged eight (8) buildings and destroyed over fifteen (15) businesses. Although there was significant damage, Plainfield is a community that has stood together in the face of catastrophe and come out stronger. During the Covid-19 Pandemic, grants were given to local businesses hurt by the public health crisis to maintain economic stability in the city. Plainfield will now do the same for the businesses that were impacted by the downtown fire.

The City of Plainfield will utilize ARPA funds to offer grants of up to \$10,000 for the business owners that were impacted by the fire. Uses for the grant money can include sign and façade improvements, smoke damage repair, clean-up expenses, insurance payments, equipment replacement or repair, and remodeling/reconstruction expenses.

Applicants should prepare a packet with high-level proof of damage, written explanation of need, proof of insurance (or lack thereof), a W-9 form, and a Business Registration Certificate (BRC). If you are an impacted business owner, please get in touch with Principal Planner Maximo Vazquez by emailing [maximo.vazquez@plainfieldnj.gov](mailto:maximo.vazquez@plainfieldnj.gov) or calling 908-753-342.

The City of Plainfield is also establishing the Plainfield Fire Disaster Recovery Fund. Contributions will be collected from residents and businesses to distribute to business owners impacted by the fire. If you would like to donate, checks can be written to the City of Plainfield with "Recovery Fund" in the memo and dropped off at the Mayor and Business Administrators' office at Plainfield City Hall (515 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield).

"Plainfield is not a community that overlooks its neighbors in their time of need. Opening a small business is a large feat. It can take years of savings, labor, sweat, and tears. We are devastated for these owners facing the daunting task of rebuilding. Although we cannot replace what was lost, we hope this grant and the Plainfield Fire Disaster Recovery Fund can help alleviate some of the economic stress they are under." Responded Mayor Mapp when questioned about how the city planned to provide aid to the burnt-out businesses. "Working together, we will see our entrepreneurs through this tough time and help these businesses open their doors again."

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*The City of Plainfield, also known by its iconic nickname "The Queen City," is 153 years old, home to a population of 54,586 individuals. The City of Plainfield is the third-largest city in Union County. The current mayor of the beautiful Queen City is Mayor Adrian O. Mapp, serving a historic, consecutive third term. For more information on the City of Plainfield, visit online at [www.plainfieldnj.gov](http://www.plainfieldnj.gov), [www.facebook.com/cityofplainfieldnj](https://www.facebook.com/cityofplainfieldnj), Instagram at [@cityofplainfieldnj](https://www.instagram.com/cityofplainfieldnj), and Twitter at [@cityofplainfld](https://twitter.com/cityofplainfld).*

