News from: **City of Oakland**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Oakland City Council Ratifies City of Oakland's Proclamation of Local Emergency

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Oakland, Calif. – On Thursday, December 8, the proclamation of a Local Emergency by the Oakland City Administrator was ratified by the Oakland City Council during a special meeting.

The local emergency, which was, proclaimed on Tuesday, December 6, is an important step in recovery for the City of Oakland and our community.

Under the California Disaster Assistance Act, the City of Oakland may be eligible for reimbursement of up to 75 percent of qualifying response and recovery expenses related to the 31st Avenue Fire. Generally, these include labor, equipment, materials and other expenses related to extinguishing the fire and recovering the victims from the scene. The Oakland Fire Department's Emergency Management Services Division will be developing an initial damage estimate to provide to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for consideration for California Disaster Assistance Act funding.

Staff from the Economic & Workforce Development Department has already begun distributing the Estimated Disaster Economic Injury Worksheet for Businesses. Once a minimum of five businesses have completed and returned the worksheets, the City of Oakland can submit the package to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for review and submission to the U.S. Small Business Administration. The SBA will consider the packet for its Economic Injury Disaster Loans. There is no maximum on the number of businesses who are eligible to apply.

Artists who may have operated a business in the 1315 31st Avenue warehouse may be eligible for SBA loans, and are encouraged to contact Aliza Gallo, Economic Development Manager, at agallo@oaklandnet.com or (510) 238-7405.

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