

**CITY OF FOUNTAIN VALLEY
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PRESS RELEASE

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**TO: News Media
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Fountain Valley Declares Local Emergency to Aid Coordinated Response to Omni Metals Fire

Fountain Valley, CA – On Tuesday, May 3, the Fountain Valley City Council passed a resolution proclaiming the existence of a local emergency caused by the recent Omni Metals Fire. Declaring a local emergency assists the City of Fountain Valley with coordination and resources to aid in the area’s quick clean up.

The emergency proclamation authorizes the Director of Emergency Services to exercise powers under the California Emergency Services Act, to publish information on the emergency, and to take all necessary actions to obtain emergency assistance and implement preventative measures. While the City’s declaration of a local emergency will aid in additional remediation as needed, the area has already been deemed safe for vehicle and pedestrian travel.

The Omni Metals Fire broke out in the early hours on Wednesday, April 20 at Omni Metal Finishing Inc. located at 11665 Coley River Circle. The fire was extinguished after Fountain Valley Fire Department’s coordinated response with the fire crews from Huntington Beach, Costa Mesa, Anaheim and the Orange County Fire Authority. Due to Omni Metal’s housing of various materials that released potentially harmful chemical substances, the City immediately closed the area and assisted the Orange County Health Department in its clean up of the potentially hazardous fire run-off.

By April 22, approximately 48 hours after the incident occurred, all public areas along Newhope Street, the full length of Coley River Circle, and the storm drain facility extending to Euclid Street and Grace Avenue were declared safe for both public pedestrian and vehicular traffic by the Orange County Health Department and a third-party clean up vendor.

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. More information about the incident will be released and posted to the City’s website (www.fountainvalley.org) when available.

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