



CITY OF COSTA MESA

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From the Office of the Mayor Katrina Foley

March 17, 2020

To the Costa Mesa Business Community:

As your Mayor, I want to assure every business owner and operator, large and small, that your City team is investigating every avenue of assistance available to us locally, and that we are in daily consultation with our state and federal representatives pushing for aggressive action now to support our hard-hit businesses.

Background:

Your City team, myself as Mayor, the City Council, City Manager, and all city staff, have been working proactively to reduce the impact of COVID-19 to the entire Costa Mesa community. On March 12, Costa Mesa City Manager Lori Ann Farrell Harrison issued a proclamation declaring the existence of a local emergency in order to protect the public's health and welfare. On March 13th, the City Council ratified the declaration with a unanimous vote. To further mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission, the City issued an order for the cancellation of all non-essential meetings and functions and all large gatherings of 250 people or more. This includes postponing or cancelling smaller gatherings that do not allow social distancing of six feet per person or involve individuals at high risk of infection, including individuals over 60 years of age or with underlying conditions.

President's Actions

Yesterday, President Trump recommended avoiding gatherings of more than 10 people and also urged Americans to avoid eating and drinking at bars and restaurants. The City of Costa Mesa is analyzing the effect of this new guidance and working to comply.

Governor's Actions regarding local businesses

On Sunday March 15, Governor Gavin Newsom held a press conference to announce additional measures to combat the spread of COVID-19 beyond the initial guidance. On Monday evening, March 16, Governor Newsom expanded this guidance. The City of Costa Mesa strongly encourages that the public and business community closely follow the additional directives and guidelines.

MAYOR
Katrina Foley
At Large

MAYOR PRO TEM
John B. Stephens
At Large

COUNCIL MEMBER
Andrea Marr
District 3

COUNCIL MEMBER
Manuel Chavez
District 4

COUNCIL MEMBER
Arlis Reynolds
District 5

COUNCIL MEMBER
Sandra L. Genis
At Large

COUNCIL MEMBER
Allan R. Mansoor
At Large

- The Governor directed all bars, nightclubs, wineries, and brewpubs to shut down, through March 31 in accordance with the governor's public gatherings direction from March 11. New guidance from March 16 includes the closure of dine-in service at restaurants and the closure of movie theaters and fitness clubs through March 31. The March 31 date may be extended.
- Restaurants and grocery stores can remain open, but restaurants should only provide pick-up and delivery services, and should respect social distancing guidance.
- The Governor called for an expansion of point of access for people who cannot get food. Restaurants are asked to help with this effort.
- The Governor also committed to provide assistance through unemployment insurance, disability insurance, and paid family leave for workers impacted by the Coronavirus. This includes workers who believe they are independent contractors. Additionally, the Governor agreed to help seek assistance for small businesses through the federal Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program, and other resources to help businesses get through this time.

What local measures are available to help businesses?

- Your business is extremely important to us. We are going to do everything we can to help you and get the tools to help you.
 - We are working with our local Chamber of Commerce and Travel Costa Mesa to form a list of take-out and delivery restaurant and grocery options. Please let us know if you want to be included.
- We will work on helping to minimize this disruption to business as much as possible. We are initiating disaster recovery efforts to help secure disaster relief funding to the greatest extent possible.
- Our team is monitoring all federal and state resources for disaster relief. Our finance team is going to be sending instructions to businesses to assess economic damages related to this incident. This is precisely why we boldly acted to be the first in the county to declare a local emergency.
- City leaders and public safety officials are prepared to deal with the crisis, and have called a special meeting for 6pm tonight, March 17, which can be livestreamed on our YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCttmVrEQT27ffVwRG3Wp_5Q

- Additionally, we will schedule a conference call in the next few days to address your concerns and update you on our efforts.

On March 16, the US Small Business Administration approved an Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance declaration for California, which makes loans available to small businesses and private, non-profit organizations in designated areas of a state or territory to help alleviate economic injury caused by the Coronavirus.

Click here for information on Small Business Administration assistance.

<https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>

Click here for information on California Employment Development Department online resources.

https://www.edd.ca.gov/about_edd/online_services.htm

And click here to get information on Bloomberg Philanthropies.

www.Bloomberg.org./program/public-health

The City of Costa Mesa needs your assistance to be sure you are kept informed. If you are a Restaurant or Grocer, please fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/spiRbwth9EwY3zGs5>

If you are a Business Owner or Manager, please fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/iY45JqsGhDJm5YoG8>

Where can I get more information?

It is important to note that the best sources of information regarding the virus itself will be the county, state and federal health care agencies as this is their area of expertise. Here are links to those sites:

- OC Health Care Agency
- www.ochealthinfo.com/novelcoronavirus
- California Department of Public Health
- www.cdph.ca.gov/covid19
- Centers for Disease Control
- www.cdc.gov/covid19
- World Health Organization

- www.who.int/coronavirus
- For additional questions, please call the Health Care Agency of Orange County at 800-564-8448 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

We appreciate your investment in the City of Costa Mesa. Our success is tied to your success. As we navigate through uncharted territory, you have our commitment that we will work with you to get through this together.

What should you do?

- Please check the City's web page here <https://www.costamesaca.gov/hot-topics/coronavirus> and follow the city's social media channels on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Nextdoor for the latest information daily.
- Provide information to your employees to file a claim for unemployment during this layoff time https://edd.ca.gov/Unemployment/Filing_a_Claim.htm
- Share with us how we can best serve you and help your business mitigate the impacts of this unexpected public health crisis.
- For specific questions and concerns, we are designating Tony Dodero, City Manager's Office PIO, as your direct point of contact at tony.dodero@costamesaca.gov or at 714-754-5288.
- I am of course always available for calls or texts at 949-244-9010 or via email at Katrina.Foley@costamesaca.gov

Kind regards,



Katrina Foley
City of Costa Mesa, Mayor