



CITY of LAGUNA NIGUEL

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CITY COUNCIL

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Council Member Elaine Gennaway
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April 28, 2020

Orange County Board of Supervisors
333 W. Santa Ana Boulevard
Santa Ana, California 92701

RE: COVID-19 Local Economic Impact and Recovery

Dear Orange County Board of Supervisors,

As local elected officials, our top priority has and will always be the public's health and safety. Understanding this, we have a further obligation to do all that is possible to protect our respective communities economically. Cities throughout Orange County are losing substantial sales tax revenues due to businesses being closed or having to operate with reduced services. I encourage the Board of Supervisors to develop a plan to re-open Orange County businesses in order to regain our economic vitality.

For the past few weeks the City of Laguna Niguel has placed its focus on the health, safety, and well-being of our residents. We have adhered to the stay at home order and additional County, State, and Federal recommendations and guidelines that have slowed the spread of COVID-19 and ensured Orange County hospitals do not become overwhelmed. By any measure, these efforts have been successful thus far. According to the Orange County Health Care Agency, hospitals throughout Orange County have been operating below capacity with nearly 50% of ICU beds currently available. As such, the time has come to place a focus on re-opening Orange County businesses for the good of the economy and the well-being of our communities.

Our critical small businesses may not survive if restrictions remain in place for much longer. It is time to develop a plan to safely re-open our economy and start the recovery process from the economic and financial implications small businesses have unfortunately faced.

I want to thank you for developing the "Orange County Business Guidelines" to help assist our local businesses in preparing for re-opening. This was a much needed first step in the right direction. I look forward to working with you to create a plan that will result in an environment in which the Orange County economy will flourish once again.

Respectively,

Mayor Laurie Davies
City of Laguna Niguel