



**PROCLAMATION
CALLING A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL**

In accordance with the authority in me vested, I do hereby call the Berkeley City Council in special session as follows:

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

6:00 P.M.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD ROOM - 1231 ADDISON STREET, BERKELEY, CA 94702

JESSE ARREGUIN, MAYOR

Councilmembers:

DISTRICT 1 – RASHI KESARWANI
DISTRICT 2 – CHERYL DAVILA
DISTRICT 3 – BEN BARTLETT
DISTRICT 4 – KATE HARRISON

DISTRICT 5 – SOPHIE HAHN
DISTRICT 6 – SUSAN WENGRAF
DISTRICT 7 – RIGEL ROBINSON
DISTRICT 8 – LORI DROSTE

Preliminary Matters

Roll Call:

Public Comment - Limited to items on this agenda only

Action Calendar

The public may comment on each item listed on the agenda for action as the item is taken up. For items moved to the Action Calendar from the Consent Calendar or Information Calendar, persons who spoke on the item during the Consent Calendar public comment period may speak again at the time the matter is taken up during the Action Calendar.

The Presiding Officer will request that persons wishing to speak line up at the podium to determine the number of persons interested in speaking at that time. Up to ten (10) speakers may speak for two minutes. If there are more than ten persons interested in speaking, the Presiding Officer may limit the public comment for all speakers to one minute per speaker. Speakers are permitted to yield their time to one other speaker, however no one speaker shall have more than four minutes. The Presiding Officer may, with the consent of persons representing both sides of an issue, allocate a block of time to each side to present their issue.

Action items may be reordered at the discretion of the Chair with the consent of Council.

Action Calendar

- 1. Ratification of Recommendations Issued by the Director of Emergency Services and the Public Health Officer Regarding Meetings of Legislative Bodies**
From: City Manager
Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution ratifying the recommendations issued by the Director of Emergency Services and the Public Health Officer regarding meetings of Berkeley legislative bodies in response to the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) pandemic.
Financial Implications: None
Contact: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager, (510) 981-7000
- 2. Urgency Ordinance Adopting BMC Chapter 13.110, the COVID-19 Emergency Response Ordinance**
From: Mayor Arreguin (Author); Councilmember Robinson (Author); Councilmember Harrison (Author)
Recommendation: Adopt an Urgency Ordinance adding Berkeley Municipal Code Chapter 13.110, the COVID-19 Emergency Response Ordinance, to provide protections to residential tenants against evictions during the declared state of emergency, to preserve the health and safety of the Berkeley community.
Financial Implications: None
Contact: Jesse Arreguin, Mayor, (510) 981-7100
- 3. Berkeley COVID-19 Relief Fund and Expanding Flexible Housing Pool**
From: Mayor Arreguin (Author)
Recommendation:

 1. Refer to the City Manager to consider the creation of a tax-exempt special fund at up to \$ 3 million dollars, to provide gap resources which to be matched with grants or philanthropic donations to provide gap assistance to renters, small businesses and arts organizations significantly impacted (demonstrated decrease in gross receipts or patronage) by the COVID-19 state of emergency. The City Manager is requested to consider all federal, state and not-for-profit funding available to provide economic relief to businesses and arts organizations which can be leveraged with the City's additional funding.
 2. Direct the City Manager to identify additional funding and increase the allocation to the Flexible Housing Pool, administered by BACS, and amend the contract and program guidelines if necessary, to provide emergency rental assistance and flexible funding for housing, and to report back to Council on the funding allocated and outcomes after the declared state of emergency.

Financial Implications: See report
Contact: Jesse Arreguin, Mayor, (510) 981-7100

Action Calendar

4. Strategies for Special Populations During COVID-19 Crisis

From: Councilmember Hahn (Author)

Recommendation: Refer to the City Manager to develop and implement strategies to address the needs of populations in Berkeley who face unique challenges during the COVID-19 crisis. Coordinate with public and community agencies and consult appropriate experts as needed, to ensure the special needs of these populations, and of those who work with them, are identified and addressed. Populations for whom special strategies shall be considered include, but are not limited to:

1. People experiencing homelessness
2. Individuals with disabilities
3. Senior citizens (especially low-income Seniors)
4. Single parent households with children
5. People experiencing food insecurity
6. Undocumented residents
7. Stranded visitors

Consider allocating additional resources to City of Berkeley departments and partner agencies to meet identified challenges during the COVID-19 emergency.

Financial Implications: See report

Contact: Sophie Hahn, Councilmember, District 5, (510) 981-7150

Adjournment

I hereby request that the City Clerk of the City of Berkeley cause personal notice to be given to each member of the Berkeley City Council on the time and place of said meeting, forthwith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Berkeley to be affixed on March 16, 2020.



Jesse Arreguin, Mayor

Public Notice – this Proclamation serves as the official agenda for this meeting.

ATTEST:



Date: March 16, 2020

Mark Numainville, City Clerk

NOTICE CONCERNING YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS: If you object to a decision by the City Council to approve or deny an appeal, the following requirements and restrictions apply: 1) Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6 and Government Code Section 65009(c)(1)(E), no lawsuit challenging a City decision to deny or approve a Zoning Adjustments Board decision may be filed and served on the City more than 90 days after the date the Notice of Decision of the action of the City Council is mailed. Any lawsuit not filed within that 90-day period will be barred. 2) In any lawsuit that may be filed against a City Council decision to approve or deny a Zoning Adjustments Board decision, the issues and evidence will be limited to those raised by you or someone else, orally or in writing, at a public hearing or prior to the close of the last public hearing on the project.

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Communications to the Berkeley City Council are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. **Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to the City Council, will become part of the public record.** If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the City Clerk. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the City Clerk at (510) 981-6900 or clerk@cityofberkeley.info for further information. Copies of individual communications are available for viewing at the City Clerk Department and through Records Online.

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City Clerk Department
2180 Milvia Street
Tel: 510-981-6900
TDD: 510-981-6903
Fax: 510-981-6901
Email: clerk@CityofBerkeley.info

Libraries:
Main - 2090 Kittredge Street
Claremont Branch – 2940 Benvenue
West Branch – 1125 University
North Branch – 1170 The Alameda
South Branch – 1901 Russell

COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location.

To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at (510) 981-6418 (V) or (510) 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date.

Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.



Captioning services are provided at the meeting, on B-TV, and on the Internet. In addition, assisted listening devices for the hearing impaired are available from the City Clerk prior to the meeting, and are to be returned before the end of the meeting.

Communications

Item #1: Ratification of Recommendations Issued by the Director of Emergency Services and the Public Health Officer Regarding Meetings of Legislative Bodies

1. James McFadden (5)
2. David Lerman
3. John Caner, on behalf of Downtown Berkeley Association (2)
4. Eva Chrysanthe
5. JJ Noire
6. Cynthia Sue Larson
7. Topher Brennan
8. Margy Wilkinson
9. Phoebe Anne Sorgen
10. Forest Mozer
11. Lori Fagerholm

12. James Brook
13. Michael Frank
14. Pamela Michaud
15. Carole Marasovic, Chair of the Homeless Commission (2)

**Item #2: Urgency Ordinance Adopting BMC Chapter 13.110, the COVID-19
Emergency Response Ordinance**

16. Kevin Walters
17. Margy Wilkinson (2)
18. East Bay Housing Organizations



Office of the City Manager

ACTION CALENDAR

March 17, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Subject: Ratification of Recommendations Issued by the Director of Emergency Services and the Public Health Officer Regarding Meetings of Legislative Bodies

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution ratifying the recommendations issued by the Director of Emergency Services and the Public Health Officer regarding meetings of Berkeley legislative bodies in response to the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) pandemic.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On March 12, 2020 the Director of Emergency Services presented a set of recommendations to the Agenda & Rules Committee regarding the conduct of business by legislative bodies of the City of Berkeley. The recommendations were effective and operationalized on March 12, 2020. These recommendations were developed in accordance with the Health Officer's guidance on mass gatherings (Attachment 2) to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the community by suspending meetings of some legislative bodies and utilizing social distancing and technology at meetings that must be held to complete time-sensitive, legally mandated business. The Board of Library Trustees and the Rent Stabilization Board are not subject to these specific recommendations and may develop protocols for their conduct of business.

The Agenda & Rules Committee took the following action regarding the recommendations.

Action: M/S/C (Hahn/Wengraf) to recommend to the City Council to acknowledge the City Manager's authority as the Director of Emergency Services to take specific actions regarding the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic; endorsing the actions described below; and requesting that the actions taken be presented to the City Council on March 17, 2020 for acknowledgement and ratification.

Vote: Ayes – Wengraf, Hahn, Arreguin; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent – None.

The recommendations issued include:

Boards & Commissions

Implementing a 60-day suspension of most commission meetings. Certain commissions with time-sensitive, legally mandated business to complete may hold a meeting if approved by the Director of Emergency Services. The City may consider teleconferencing for these commissions, if feasible. The full list of Commissions is incorporated into the resolution in Attachment 1. The suspension will be re-evaluated at the Agenda & Rules Committee meeting on April 13, 2020.

City Council Policy Committees

The Agenda & Rules Committee and the Budget & Finance Committee may continue to meet to fulfill their legislative and advisory responsibilities. All other Policy Committees (Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment & Sustainability, Public Safety, Land Use, Housing & Economic Development, and Health, Life Enrichment Equity & Community) are suspended indefinitely. The 120-day deadline to consider an item will be tolled during the suspension of business.

City Council

For City Council meetings, the City will continue to advise and implement social distancing by limiting the capacity of the Council Chambers, providing an overflow room, attempting to limit the duration of the meeting, only conducting essential business, and limiting or suspending ceremonial items. The City will adhere to and implement the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order #N-25-20 (Attachment 3) related to the Brown Act and the utilization of technology to facilitate participation.

As conditions change and additional measures become warranted, new recommendations may be issued.

This action advances our Strategic Plan goal of creating a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city.

BACKGROUND

COVID-19 is a respiratory disease which has now spread to the United States. It is mild for most people, but can cause severe illness and result in death for some. Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions, such as heart disease or diabetes, have the greatest risk of becoming severely ill. There is no vaccine and no medications approved to treat COVID-19 at this time.

The City activated the Emergency Operations Center in January 2020 to coordinate response and prepare for a potential outbreak. Public Health staff have been and

continue to work closely with regional, state, and federal officials to protect our community as the City responds to this developing situation.

Berkeley Public Health now has two cases, including oversight of a COVID-19 patient who was brought to a regional hospital from the Grand Princess Cruise Ship. Though we do not have any laboratory-confirmed cases of community spread of COVID-19 in Berkeley or Alameda County, the City is taking proactive measures to limit that occurrence.

COVID-19 spreads from person to person, mainly through coughs and sneezes of infected people or between people who are in close contact.

The most important thing members of the community can do is to practice everyday healthy behaviors that prevent the spread of germs.

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Don't touch your face with unwashed hands.
- Use alcohol based hand sanitizer when soap and water aren't available. Look for one with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.

These actions don't just protect individuals. They help keep our whole community safe, especially our most vulnerable residents, by slowing the spread of the disease.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental effects associated with the proposed recommendation.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

This action to ratify the recommendations previously issued by the Director of Emergency Services and the Public Health Officer is being brought forward based on the action taken by the Agenda & Rules Committee on March 12, 2020.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager, (510) 981-7000

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution
- 2: Health Officer's Guidance on Mass Gatherings
- 3: Governor's Executive Order #N-25-20

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

RATIFYING THE RECOMMENDATIONS ISSUED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER REGARDING MEETINGS OF BERKELEY LEGISLATIVE BODIES IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 (NOVEL CORONAVIRUS) PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020, pursuant to Berkeley Municipal Code section 2.88.040, the City Manager, serving as the Director of Emergency Services, proclaimed the existence of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the proclamation was warranted by virtue of the extreme peril to the safety of persons and property in the City caused by pandemic in the form of the global spread of a severe acute respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus (“COVID-19”), including confirmed cases in California and the San Francisco Bay Area, and presumed cases in Alameda County prompting the County to declare a local health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the proclamation of the Director of Emergency Services was ratified by the City Council on March 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the continued spread of COVID-19 and increase in community transmission cases in surrounding counties warrant further measures be taken by the City to protect the community; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Officer has issued guidelines for limiting mass gatherings; and

WHEREAS, certain limitations on the meetings of legislative bodies in the City of Berkeley is warranted; and

WHEREAS, the continued essential functions of the City and certain legislative bodies must continue for time-sensitive, legally mandated actions; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services presented recommendations to the Agenda & Rules Committee on March 12, 2020 regarding the meetings of legislative bodies; and

WHEREAS, the Agenda & Rules Committee recommended that said recommendations be forwarded to the City Council for acknowledgement and ratification.

March 17, 2020

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the following recommendations issued by the Director of Emergency Services and the Public Health Officer regarding limitations and practices for legislative bodies of the City of Berkeley are hereby acknowledged and ratified:

Section 1. Boards and Commissions

Commissions listed below may continue to meet only if they have time-sensitive, legally mandated business to complete, as determined by the Director of Emergency Services. The City may consider teleconferencing for these commissions, if feasible.

Design Review Committee
Fair Campaign Practices Commission
Housing Advisory Commission (limited to quasi-judicial activities)
Joint Subcommittee on the Implementation of State Housing Laws
Landmarks Preservation Commission
Open Government Commission
Personnel Board
Planning Commission
Police Review Commission
Zoning Adjustments Board

Commissions in Category B shall not meet for a period of 60 days. This will be re-evaluated at the Agenda & Rules Committee meeting on April 13, 2020. A Commission in Category B may convene a meeting if it has time-sensitive, legally-mandated business to complete, as determined by the Director of Emergency Services.

Category B

Animal Care Commission
Cannabis Commission
Civic Arts Commission
Children, Youth, and Recreation Commission
Commission on Aging
Commission on Disability
Commission on Labor
Commission on the Status of Women
Community Environmental Advisory Commission
Community Health Commission
Disaster and Fire Safety Commission
Elmwood Business Improvement District Advisory Board
Energy Commission
Homeless Commission
Homeless Services Panel of Experts
Housing Advisory Commission

March 17, 2020

Human Welfare and Community Action Commission
Measure O Bond Oversight Committee
Mental Health Commission
Parks and Waterfront Commission
Peace and Justice Commission
Public Works Commission
Solano Avenue Business Improvement District Advisory Board
Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Product Panel of Experts
Transportation Commission
Youth Commission
Zero Waste Commission
Loan Administration Board

Section 2. City Council Policy Committees

The Agenda & Rules Committee and the Budget & Finance Committee may continue to meet to fulfill their legislative and advisory responsibilities. All other Policy Committees (Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment & Sustainability, Public Safety, Land Use, Housing & Economic Development, and Health, Life Enrichment Equity & Community) are suspended indefinitely. The 120-day deadline to consider an item will be tolled during the suspension of business.

Section 3. City Council

For City Council meetings, the City will continue to advise and implement social distancing by limiting the capacity of the Council Chambers, providing an overflow room, attempting to limit the duration of the meeting, only conducting essential business, and limiting or suspending ceremonial items. The City will adhere to and implement the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order #N-25-20 related to the Brown Act and the utilization of technology to facilitate participation.

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)

City of Berkeley Health Officer guidance on mass gatherings



MARCH 10, 2020

City of Berkeley Health Officer guidance on mass gatherings

As the City of Berkeley's Health Officer, I urge that people in Berkeley, especially older adults or those with chronic diseases, take steps to limit attendance at mass gatherings in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 cases.

I am also recommending that event organizers postpone or cancel non-essential mass gatherings and large community events where large numbers of people are within arm's length of one another. I especially urge cancellation or postponement of mass gatherings intended for older adults and those with chronic health conditions. This does not include typical office environments, stores, school, colleges, or universities.

These measures are for everyone to take, and they help the unprecedented efforts of public health workers to slow the spread.

While I am providing public health guidance for the City of Berkeley, individuals with personal health care questions should contact their provider.

Each of us has a role to play in limiting the spread of COVID-19. That starts with personal hygiene. Understanding how you can limit participation in mass gatherings is the next step.

In Berkeley, we are still relatively early in the spread of COVID-19. I anticipate that more changes will be needed in the weeks and months to come.

Dr. Lisa Hernandez
City of Berkeley Health Officer

Recommendations for high-risk groups

Health Officer Guidance for those in high-risk categories

Stay away from crowded social gatherings as much as possible, such as parades, conferences, sporting events, and concerts where large numbers of people are within arm's length of one another.

Definition of high-risk categories

- People over 60 years-old, with risk escalating with age. Those over age 80 are in the highest risk group.
- Regardless of age, people with underlying health conditions, including cardiovascular disease, severely weakened immune systems, diabetes, cancer, heart disease, or chronic lung diseases like COPD.

See recommendations for organizers on next page. →

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)

City of Berkeley Health Officer guidance on mass gatherings



MARCH 10, 2020

Recommendations for organizers of mass gatherings

Canceling non-essential events

- At this time, we recommend postponing or canceling non-essential mass gatherings and large community events where large numbers of people are within arm's length of one another.
- Cancel or postpone mass gatherings intended for older adults and those with chronic health conditions.
- They do not include typical office environments, stores, school, colleges, or universities.

Non-essential means events or meetings that are not critical for operations of business or entity. At this time, organizations have discretion to determine essential functions.

Factors when considering event cancellation or postponement:

- **Size:** Smaller is better. The risk of getting the virus increases as the size of the crowd increases.
- **Duration:** Shorter is better. The risk of getting the virus increases as the duration of the event increases (e.g., a 2-hour meeting is lower risk than a 2-day conference).
- **Density:** Risk of getting the virus increases in crowded settings. If the venue or setting doesn't enable people to keep social distance (more than arm's length of one another), the risk of spreading the virus increases. People should avoid crowded places where large numbers of people are within arm's length of one another.
- **Geographic reach:** Mixing of people across regions, states, and countries

At events you can't cancel

- Urge anyone who is sick to not attend.
- Encourage those who are at higher risk for serious illness to not attend.
- Try to find ways to give people more physical space so that they aren't in close contact as much as possible.
- Encourage attendees to follow good hygiene, such as:
 - Washing their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, alcohol-based hand sanitizer can be used.
 - Avoid close contact with other people
 - Avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth
 - Covering cough or sneeze into their elbow or with a tissue, which should promptly be disposed.
- Clean surfaces with standard cleaners.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS despite sustained efforts, the virus remains a threat, and further efforts to control the spread of the virus to reduce and minimize the risk of infection are needed; and

WHEREAS state and local public health officials may, as they deem necessary in the interest of public health, issue guidance limiting or recommending limitations upon attendance at public assemblies, conferences, or other mass events, which could cause the cancellation of such gatherings through no fault or responsibility of the parties involved, thereby constituting a force majeure; and

WHEREAS the Department of Public Health is maintaining up-to-date guidance relating to COVID-19, available to the public at <http://cdph.ca.gov/covid19>; and

WHEREAS the State of California and local governments, in collaboration with the Federal government, continue sustained efforts to minimize the spread and mitigate the effects of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS there is a need to secure numerous facilities to accommodate quarantine, isolation, or medical treatment of individuals testing positive for or exposed to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, many individuals who have developmental disabilities and receive services through regional centers funded by the Department of Developmental Services also have chronic medical conditions that make them more susceptible to serious symptoms of COVID-19, and it is critical that they continue to receive their services while also protecting their own health and the general public health; and

WHEREAS individuals exposed to COVID-19 may be temporarily unable to report to work due to illness caused by COVID-19 or quarantines related to COVID-19 and individuals directly affected by COVID-19 may experience potential loss of income, health care and medical coverage, and ability to pay for housing and basic needs, thereby placing increased demands on already strained regional and local health and safety resources such as shelters and food banks; and

WHEREAS in the interest of public health and safety, it is necessary to exercise my authority under the Emergency Services Act, specifically Government Code section 8572, to ensure adequate facilities exist to address the impacts of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this order would prevent, hinder, or delay appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571 and 8572, do hereby issue the following order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All residents are to heed any orders and guidance of state and local public health officials, including but not limited to the imposition of social distancing measures, to control the spread of COVID-19.
2. For the period that began January 24, 2020 through the duration of this emergency, the Employment Development Department shall have the discretion to waive the one-week waiting period in Unemployment Insurance Code section 2627(b)(1) for disability insurance applicants who are unemployed and disabled as a result of the COVID-19, and who are otherwise eligible for disability insurance benefits.
3. For the period that began January 24, 2020 through the duration of this emergency, the Employment Development Department shall have the discretion to waive the one-week waiting period in Unemployment Insurance Code section 1253(d) for unemployment insurance applicants who are unemployed as a result of the COVID-19, and who are otherwise eligible for unemployment insurance benefits.
4. Notwithstanding Health and Safety Code section 1797.172(b), during the course of this emergency, the Director of the Emergency Medical Services Authority shall have the authority to implement additions to local optional scopes of practice without first consulting with a committee of local EMS medical directors named by the EMS Medical Directors Association of California.
5. In order to quickly provide relief from interest and penalties, the provisions of the Revenue and Taxation Code that apply to the taxes and fees administered by the Department of Tax and Fee Administration, requiring the filing of a statement under penalty of perjury setting forth the facts for a claim for relief, are suspended for a period of 60 days after the date of this Order for any individuals or businesses who are unable to file a timely tax return or make a timely payment as a result of complying with a state or local public health official's imposition or recommendation of social distancing measures related to COVID-19.
6. The Franchise Tax Board, the Board of Equalization, the Department of Tax and Fee Administration, and the Office of Tax Appeals shall use their administrative powers where appropriate to provide those individuals and businesses impacted by complying with a state or local public health official's imposition or recommendation of social

distancing measures related to COVID-19 with the extensions for filing, payment, audits, billing, notices, assessments, claims for refund, and relief from subsequent penalties and interest.

7. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services shall ensure adequate state staffing during this emergency. Consistent with applicable federal law, work hour limitations for retired annuitants, permanent and intermittent personnel, and state management and senior supervisors, are suspended. Furthermore, reinstatement and work hour limitations in Government Code sections 21220, 21224(a), and 7522.56(b), (d), (f), and (g), and the time limitations in Government Code section 19888.1 and California Code of Regulations, title 2, sections 300-303 are suspended. The Director of the California Department of Human Resources must be notified of any individual employed pursuant to these waivers.
8. The California Health and Human Services Agency and the Office of Emergency Services shall identify, and shall otherwise be prepared to make available—including through the execution of any necessary contracts or other agreements and, if necessary, through the exercise of the State's power to commandeer property – hotels and other places of temporary residence, medical facilities, and other facilities that are suitable for use as places of temporary residence or medical facilities as necessary for quarantining, isolating, or treating individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or who have had a high-risk exposure and are thought to be in the incubation period.
9. The certification and licensure requirements of California Code of Regulations, Title 17, section 1079 and Business and Professions Code section 1206.5 are suspended as to all persons who meet the requirements under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of section 353 of the Public Health Service Act for high complexity testing and who are performing analysis of samples to test for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, in any certified public health laboratory or licensed clinical laboratory.
10. To ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities continue to receive the services and supports mandated by their individual program plans threatened by disruptions caused by COVID-19, the Director of the Department of Developmental Services may issue directives waiving any provision or requirement of the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act, the California Early Intervention Services Act, and the accompanying regulations of Title 17, Division 2 of the California Code of Regulations. A directive may delegate to the regional centers any authority granted to the Department by law where the Director believes such delegation is necessary to ensure services to individuals with developmental disabilities. The Director shall describe the need justifying the waiver granted in each directive and articulate how the waiver is necessary to protect the public health or safety from the threat of COVID-19 or necessary to ensure that services to individuals with developmental disabilities are not disrupted. Any waiver granted by a directive shall expire 30 days from the date of its issuance. The Director may grant one or more 30-day extensions if the waiver continues to be necessary

to protect health or safety or to ensure delivery of services. The Director shall rescind a waiver once it is no longer necessary to protect public health or safety or ensure delivery of services. Any waivers and extensions granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be posted on the Department's website.

11. Notwithstanding any other provision of state or local law, including the Bagley-Keene Act or the Brown Act, a local legislative body or state body is authorized to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and to make public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to all members of the public seeking to attend and to address the local legislative body or state body, during the period in which state or local public officials impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing, including but not limited to limitations on public events. All requirements in both the Bagley-Keene Act and the Brown Act expressly or impliedly requiring the physical presence of members, the clerk or other personnel of the body, or of the public as a condition of participation in or quorum for a public meeting are hereby waived.

In particular, any otherwise-applicable requirements that

- (i) state and local bodies notice each teleconference location from which a member will be participating in a public meeting;
- (ii) each teleconference location be accessible to the public;
- (iii) members of the public may address the body at each teleconference conference location;
- (iv) state and local bodies post agendas at all teleconference locations;
- (v) at least one member of the state body be physically present at the location specified in the notice of the meeting; and
- (vi) during teleconference meetings, a least a quorum of the members of the local body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local body exercises jurisdiction

are hereby suspended, on the conditions that:

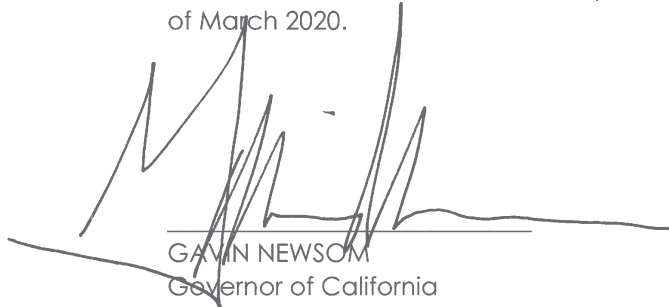
- (i) each state or local body must give advance notice of each public meeting, according to the timeframe otherwise prescribed by the Bagley-Keene Act or the Brown Act, and using the means otherwise prescribed by the Bagley-Keene Act or the Brown Act, as applicable; and
- (ii) consistent with the notice requirement in paragraph (i), each state or local body must notice at least one publicly accessible location from which members of the public shall have the right to observe and offer public comment at the public meeting, consistent with the public's rights of access and public comment otherwise provided for by the Bagley-Keene Act and the Brown Act, as applicable (including, but not limited to, the requirement that such rights of access and public comment be made available in a manner consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act).

In addition to the mandatory conditions set forth above, all state and local bodies are urged to use sound discretion and to make reasonable efforts to adhere as closely as reasonably possible to the provisions of the Bagley-Keene Act and the Brown Act, and other applicable local laws regulating the conduct of public meetings, in order to maximize transparency and provide the public access to their meetings.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 12th day of March 2020.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State



Office of the Mayor

ACTION CALENDAR
March 17, 2020

To: Honorable Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Jesse Arreguin, Councilmembers Rigel Robinson, Councilmember Kate Harrison,

Subject: Urgency Ordinance Adopting BMC Chapter 13.110, the COVID-19 Emergency Response Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt an Urgency Ordinance adding Berkeley Municipal Code Chapter 13.110, the COVID-19 Emergency Response Ordinance, to provide protections to residential tenants against evictions during the declared state of emergency, to preserve the health and safety of the Berkeley community.

BACKGROUND

International, national, state and local health and governmental authorities are responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus named “SARS-CoV-2.” And the disease it causes has been named “coronavirus disease 2019,” abbreviated COVID-19, (“COVID-19”). In response to this emergency, on March 3, 2020, the City Manager acting as the Director of Emergency Services declared a local State of Emergency based on COVID-19 (hereinafter referred to as “the State of Emergency”), which the City Council subsequently ratified on March 10, 2020. In addition, on March 4, 2020, the Governor declared a state of emergency in California and the President of the United States declared a national state of emergency on March 13, 2020 regarding the novel coronavirus and COVID-19. City of Berkeley Public Health Officer Dr. Lisa Hernandez has issued recommendations including but not limited to social distancing, staying home if sick, canceling or postponing large group events, working from home, and other precautions to protect public health and prevent transmission of COVID-19. As a result of the State of Emergency and the government-recommended precautions by federal, state and local officials, many tenants have experienced sudden income loss, and further income impacts are anticipated, leaving tenants vulnerable to eviction. In addition, tenants who contract COVID-19 are required to self-quarantine which will require time away from work. During this State of Emergency, and in the interests of protecting the public health and preventing transmission of the COVID-19, it is essential to avoid unnecessary displacement and homelessness.

In the last week, jurisdictions around the country have introduced similar legislation including San Jose, Oakland, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Philadelphia.

In addition, Governor Newsom declared a State of Emergency and issued Executive Order N-25-20 to prepare for the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Newsom's March 4, 2020 proclamation on the State of Emergency¹ makes additional resources available, formalizes emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and helps the state prepare for broader spread of COVID-19. On March 12, 2020 Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20, "Enhancing State and Local Government's Ability to Respond to COVID-19 Pandemic".² The Governor's order:

- Waives the one-week waiting period for people who are unemployed and/or disabled as a result of COVID-19;
- Delays the deadline for state tax filing by 60 days for individuals and businesses unable to file on time based on compliance with public health requirements related to COVID-19 filings;
- Directs residents to follow public health directives and guidance, including to cancel large non-essential gatherings that do not meet state criteria;
- Readies the state to commandeer property for temporary residences and medical facilities for quarantining, isolating or treating individuals;
- Allows local or state legislative bodies to hold meetings via teleconference and to make meetings accessible electronically; and
- Allows local and state emergency administrators to act quickly to protect public health

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental impacts associated with this action.

CONTACT PERSON

Mayor Jesse Arreguín 510-981-7100

Attachments:

1: Urgency Ordinance

¹ <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3.4.20-Coronavirus-SOE-Proclamation.pdf>

² <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/03/12/governor-newsom-issues-new-executive-order-further-enhancing-state-and-local-governments-ability-to-respond-to-covid-19-pandemic/>



Attachment
To Be Delivered

This attachment will be delivered by the submitting office.

City Clerk Department
2180 Milvia Street
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 981-6900

The City of Berkeley, City Council's Web site:
<http://www.cityofberkeley.info/citycouncil/>



Office of the Mayor

ACTION CALENDAR

March 17, 2020

To: Honorable Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Jesse Arreguín

Subject: Berkeley COVID-19 Relief Fund and Expanding Flexible Housing Pool

RECOMMENDATION

1. Refer to the City Manager to consider the creation of a tax-exempt special fund at up to \$ 3 million dollars, to provide gap resources which to be matched with grants or philanthropic donations to provide gap assistance to renters, small businesses and arts organizations significantly impacted (demonstrated decrease in gross receipts or patronage) by the COVID-19 state of emergency. The City Manager is requested to consider all federal, state and not-for-profit funding available to provide economic relief to businesses and arts organizations which can be leveraged with the City's additional funding.
2. Direct the City Manager to identify additional funding and increase the allocation to the Flexible Housing Pool, administered by BACS, and amend the contract and program guidelines if necessary, to provide emergency rental assistance and flexible funding for housing, and to report back to Council on the funding allocated and outcomes after the declared state of emergency.

SUMMARY

On Wednesday, March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a COVID-19 world-wide pandemic. As a result of this declaration, and the growing number of people affected by the disease, social norms are significantly impacted. Many of Berkeley's small businesses have already seen a 25 – 75% drop in gross receipts since the COVID19 outbreak compared to the same time period in 2019. (Attachment #1)

Arts and entertainment venues have closed as have Berkeley schools and UC Berkeley will complete the semester with online instruction – requiring that many students vacate campus provided housing and return to their home communities. Revenues that are determined by patronage have stopped.

Businesses and nonprofits are instructing employees to stay home, many without pay. Gig workers and those with performance contracts will no longer be working and garnering income. Rent payments to local landlords will be delayed which could lead to eviction and possibly impact the ability to pay mortgages and property maintenance.

Berkeley has always come together as a community when facing challenging times, whether it be earthquake or fire, library renovation, support for our schools, increasing affordable housing and addressing our homeless crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic will,

once again, challenge our community. Creating the Berkeley COVID-19 Relief Fund will provide a way for the Berkeley community to come together to support each other during this trying time. It will provide financial help to our small businesses, Arts community and support those in our community who cannot pay their rent through no fault of their own.

BACKGROUND

In June 2017, the City Council established the Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool as a new anti-displacement tool. These funds can be used for a variety of purposes, including emergency rental subsidies for people who are facing an eviction.

Concerns over COVID-19, along with recommendations of social distancing has had a major impact on the local economy. While such actions are necessary to help reduce the spread of the virus, the economic fallout is disproportionately impacting minimum wage and low-income workers, many of whom live paycheck-to-paycheck. With many of these workers seeing a reduction in wages, their risk of being unable to pay the rent and therefore face eviction increases. To help mitigate these impacts, this item requests that the City Manager identify additional funding and increase the allocation to the Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool, administered by BACS, and amend the contract and program guidelines if necessary, to provide emergency rental assistance and flexible funding for housing, and to report back to Council on the funding allocated and outcomes after the declared state of emergency.

Additionally, City Arts venues and small businesses will experience little to no income during the crisis. While Federal and State resources are slowing becoming available to assist, access to these funds could take weeks. Many businesses and Arts venues will suffer greatly and some may actually need to close unless there is some immediate financial help to bridge until other government funds become available. It will to the benefit of the Berkeley community-at-large that our business are able to reopen and rebound.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The City Manager is requested to explore the creation of a tax-exempt special fund at up to \$ 3 million dollars, to provide gap resources to be matched with grants or philanthropic donations to provide gap assistance to renters, small businesses and arts organizations significantly impacted (demonstrated decrease in gross receipts or patronage) by the COVID-19 state of emergency. The City Manager is requested to consider all federal, state and not-for-profit funding available to provide economic relief to businesses and arts organizations which can be leveraged with the City's additional funding.

The City Manager is requested to consider the following recommendations related to the administration of a COVID-19 Relief Fund:

As donations are deposited, Berkeley COVID-19 Relief Fund resources could be divided proportionately between small businesses, Art and Entertainment venues and Rental Assistance.

Small business allocations could be administered by the City of Berkeley Office of Economic Development. Criteria for receiving funding and amount of funding may be established by the Office of Economic Development with input from stakeholders from representatives from all Berkeley Business Improvement Districts and the Chamber of Commerce. Grants should be based on the decline in revenue from patronage compared to the same time in 2019.

Art and Entertainment venue allocations could also be administered by the City of Berkeley Office of Economic Development. Criteria for receiving funding and amount of funding may be established by the Office of Economic Development with input from stakeholders from representatives from at least two (2) Art and Entertainment venue management. Grants should be based on the decline in revenue from patronage receipts compared to the same time in 2019.

Rent assistance to Tenants will be administered by Bay Area Community Services under their current contract for the Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool. City of Berkeley HHCS staff may need to modify the contract and administrative guidelines as required. Tenants with demonstrated impact from the COVID19 epidemic, will qualify for access to Flexible Housing Subsidy funds for this purpose.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Up to \$3 million dollars with funding sources to be identified by the City Manager

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Will support the economic sustainability of the Berkeley community as it recovers from the COVID19 pandemic.

CONTACT PERSON

Jesse Arreguin, Mayor, (510) 981-7100

Attachments:

1. Letter from Berkeley Chamber, Downtown Berkeley Association, Telegraph Improvement Business District and Visit Berkeley



VIA EMAIL
March 13, 2020

Mayor Jesse Arreguin and City Council
City of Berkeley
2180 Milvia St.
Berkeley, CA 94704

To the Mayor and Berkeley City Council,

As you know, Berkeley is a city of small businesses; many of whom have already seen a 25-75% drop in gross receipts since the COVID-19 outbreak as compared to this time last year. The situation is quickly going from bad to worse, with many of our arts and entertainment venues having closed or likely needing to close soon. Many small businesses, nonprofits, arts organizations, and other businesses do not have a cushion in their budget to weather this type of pandemic. It is incumbent upon the City of Berkeley to do what is necessary to help these businesses survive the economic impact of this unprecedented crisis. Hence, we request that the City immediately consider taking the following measures, similar to action recently taken in New York City and San Francisco:

1. Defer, discount or waive (or even refund, or do not deposit recent) business taxes and fees (for nonprofits where applicable) including garbage collection, health inspection, and business license fees.
2. Start a fund for small business and nonprofits with grants for up to \$10,000 to provide immediate relief (e.g., with fewer than five employees and up to 40% of payroll costs for two months).
3. Provide interest-free loans up to \$75,000 for businesses and nonprofits with 25% or more drop in gross receipts, if SBA loans prove insufficient in timing, amount or rate.
4. Request that the Governor declare an economic emergency disaster to activate immediate SBA loans and defer payroll and other taxes.
5. Seek unemployment benefits and additional support at the local, state and federal level for employees and contract workers with significant loss of income.
6. Establish a moratorium on new business regulations (e.g., Fair Workweek, Healthy Checkout, etc).

Sincerely,

Kirsten MacDonald, CEO
Berkeley Chamber

John Caner, CEO
Downtown Berkeley
Association

Alex Knox, Executive Director
Telegraph Business
Improvement District

Barbara Hillman, CEO
Visit Berkeley

**SOPHIE HAHN**

Berkeley City Council, District 5
 2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor
 Berkeley, CA 94704
 (510) 981-7150
 shahn@cityofberkeley.info

ACTION CALENDAR

March 17, 2020

To: Honorable Members of the City Council
From: Vice Mayor Sophie Hahn
Subject: Strategies for Special Populations during COVID-19 Crisis

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the City Manager to develop and implement strategies to address the needs of populations in Berkeley who face unique challenges during the COVID-19 crisis. Coordinate with public and community agencies and consult appropriate experts as needed, to ensure the special needs of these populations, and of those who work with them, are identified and addressed. Populations for whom special strategies shall be considered include, but are not limited to:

1. People experiencing homelessness
2. Individuals with disabilities
3. Senior citizens (especially low-income Seniors)
4. Single parent households with children
5. People experiencing food insecurity
6. Undocumented residents
7. Stranded visitors

Consider allocating additional resources to City of Berkeley departments and partner agencies to meet identified challenges during the COVID-19 emergency.

BACKGROUND**People Experiencing Homelessness**

COVID-19 is likely to result in an increase in emergency shelter needs, including the need for locations where unhoused individuals can be isolated from others while receiving basic needs and care. In addition, new demands may be placed on individuals working with the homeless including Berkeley's Homeless Outreach and Treatment (HOT) Team and employees of agencies providing shelter and services to the homeless. The City should consider the special needs of our homeless residents and those who work with them, and augment services and resources for the homeless, and homeless services providers, as needed. The following resources are offered for guidance in developing a response:

Interim Guidance for Homeless Shelters, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/plan-prepare-respond.html>

Guidance for Homeless Assistance Providers on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency, https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/covid19_guidelines.pdf

Coronavirus and Homelessness, National Alliance to End Homelessness, <https://endhomelessness.org/coronavirus-and-homelessness/>

Infectious Disease Toolkit for Continuums of Care, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Infectious-Disease-Toolkit-for-CoCs-Preventing-and-Managing-the-Spread-of-Infectious-Disease-for-People-Experiencing-Homelessness.pdf>

COVID-19: Coronavirus and Housing/Homelessness, National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), <https://nlihc.org/coronavirus-and-housing-homelessness>

Individuals with Disabilities

Individuals with disabilities may face challenges taking steps recommended to reduce the risk of COVID-19. It may not be feasible for some individuals with disabilities to socially distance themselves from others, particularly if they need regular help from caregivers or others to do everyday tasks. For some individuals with disabilities, washing hands or cleaning house can be difficult due to physical or other impairments. And while a disability alone may not put a person at higher risk from COVID-19, disabled individuals may have a disability or chronic condition that puts them at higher risk, or that makes sheltering in place difficult to achieve without added support. People of all ages, with or without disabilities, are at higher risk for COVID-19 complications if they have certain underlying medical conditions. The following resources are offered for guidance in developing a response:

If You Are at Higher Risk, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html>

COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for Individuals with Access and Functional Needs, California Department of Public Health, March 9, 2020, <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/guidance-for-individuals-with-access-and-functional-needs-03122020.pdf>

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): What do Older Adults and People with Disabilities Need to Know?, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living, <https://acl.gov/COVID-19>

COVID-19 and Students with Disabilities, National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools, <https://www.ncsecs.org/news/covid-19-and-students-with-disabilities/>

5 Things To Know About Coronavirus And People With Disabilities, Forbes, <https://www.forbes.com/sites/andrewpulrang/2020/03/08/5-things-to-know-about-coronavirus-and-people-with-disabilities/>

World Institute on Disability; Recommendations for Immediate Action Regarding: The Rights & Needs of People with Disabilities Who Use Personal Assistance Services & Supports Throughout COVID-19 Planning & Response <https://wid.org/2020/03/12/recommendations-for-immediate-covid-19-action/>

Senior Citizens (especially low-income Seniors)

Many seniors live on fixed incomes, and while some have family and friends they can rely on in the area, others may be isolated and need help managing shelter-in-place directives. Some older Berkeley residents live in Senior and group facilities and take meals in common dining rooms, and will be subject to new practices, including reductions in visitors, which may cause loneliness, boredom or anxiety. In addition, early data suggest older people are twice as likely to have serious COVID-19 illness. They are also more likely to have underlying health conditions that make it harder to cope with and recover from illness. The following resources are offered for guidance in developing a response:

COVID-19 Guidance for Older Adults, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), <https://www.cdc.gov/aging/covid19-guidance.html>

If You Are at Higher Risk, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html>

Identifying Vulnerable Older Adults and Legal Options for Increasing Their Protection During All-Hazards Emergencies, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), <https://www.cdc.gov/aging/emergency/pdf/guide.pdf>

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): What do Older Adults and People with Disabilities Need to Know?, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living, <https://acl.gov/COVID-19>

How to Protect Older People From the Coronavirus, New York Times, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/14/health/coronavirus-elderly-protection.html>

CMS Announces New Measures to Protect Nursing Home Residents from COVID-19, U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-announces-new-measures-protect-nursing-home-residents-covid-19>

Single Parent Households with Children

Single parents face significant strains at this time if they must report to work, or if they are able to work from home but need to care for their children simultaneously. If a single parent were to fall ill, there may be a need for childcare or for assistance in caring for a child who is sick simultaneously. If a single parent is hospitalized, children will likely need to be cared for by relatives or friends. To undertake food shopping and other essential activities, young children will need to be brought along if other arrangements are not available. All of these challenges are exacerbated for low income single parents, and some of these challenges exist for two parent/adult households as well. The following resources are offered for guidance in developing a response:

Coronavirus And Parenting: What You Need To Know Now, NPR, <https://www.npr.org/2020/03/13/814615866/coronavirus-and-parenting-what-you-need-to-know-now>

Women's Domestic Burden Just Got Heavier With the Coronavirus, The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/mar/16/womens-coronavirus-domestic-burden>

People Experiencing Food Insecurity

About 1 in 5 people suffer from food insecurity in Berkeley, with communities of color disproportionately struggling against hunger. For those experiencing food insecurity, COVID-19 presents a unique challenge. In addition, residents who lose employment may suddenly find themselves without adequate food and other basic resources. As schools, child care centers, and adult meal providers close or reduce service, people may lose access to the food and nutrition programs on which they rely. Moreover, prior experience suggests that viral outbreaks may disproportionately impact the poor and food insecure. The following resources are offered for guidance in developing a response:

FNS Program Guidance on Human Pandemic Response, USDA Food and Nutrition Service, <https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic>

Preparing for the Impacts of the Coronavirus on Health, Well-being, and Food Security, Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), <https://frac.org/blog/preparing-for-the-impacts-of-the-coronavirus-on-health-well-being-and-food-security>

Coronavirus: A Public Health Crisis That Threatens the Economic Security of Low-Income People, CLASP, <https://www.clasp.org/publications/report/brief/coronavirus-public-health-crisis>

The new coronavirus affects us all. But some groups may suffer more., American Association of Medical Colleges, <https://www.aamc.org/news-insights/new-coronavirus-affects-us-all-some-groups-may-suffer-more>

Undocumented Residents

Non-citizens are much more likely than U.S. citizens to be uninsured, potentially reducing their access to treatment in the event they experience COVID-19 illness. Among the nonelderly

population, about a quarter of lawfully present immigrants and more than 4 in 10 undocumented resident immigrants are uninsured. Moreover, recent changes to U.S. immigration policy, such as the public charge rule, may be causing fears among immigrants that could lead to declines in coverage and discourage them from seeking medical treatment. In addition, some immigrant groups may be experiencing stigma because of COVID-19, potentially subjecting them to social avoidance and denial of healthcare. The following resources are offered for guidance in developing a response:

Reducing Stigma, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/reducing-stigma.html>

Health Coverage of Immigrants, Kaiser Family Foundation, <https://www.kff.org/disparities-policy/fact-sheet/health-coverage-of-immigrants/>

Stranded Visitors

Travelers stranded in Berkeley face unique challenges. Many face travel restrictions, cancellations, or suspensions due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Moreover, many stranded travelers may not have access to healthcare in the U.S., due to insufficient travel insurance or limited funds. Some travelers who are unfamiliar with local laws and practices, or who face a language barrier, may simply be confused about how to access care.

Travel, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

Communication Resources for Travelers, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/communication-resources.html>

Other Groups

Additional populations who may need added support include, but are not limited to, healthcare workers and employees of businesses, agencies and organizations that continue to provide services during the emergency.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vice Mayor Sophie Hahn, Council District 5, (510) 981-7150



Communications

All communications submitted to the City Council are public record. Communications are not published directly to the City's website. Copies of individual communications are available for viewing at the City Clerk Department and through Records Online.

City Clerk Department

2180 Milvia Street
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 981-6900

Records Online

<http://www.cityofberkeley.info/recordsonline>

To search for communications associated with a particular City Council meeting using Records Online:

1. Select Search Type = “Public – Communication Query (Keywords)”
2. From Date: Enter the date of the Council meeting
3. To Date: Enter the date of the Council meeting (this may match the From Date field)
4. Click the “Search” button
5. Communication packets matching the entered criteria will be returned
6. Click the desired file in the Results column to view the document as a PDF