













April 20, 2020

California State Capitol Governor Gavin Newsom 1303 10<sup>TH</sup> Street, Suite 1173 Sacramento, CA. 95814

## Dear Governor Newsom:

As Mayors of Stanislaus County, we are requesting that you pursue an aggressive strategy for reopening our County for business. One size does not fit all. A reopening process that may fit, and make sense, for the Los Angeles and our neighboring Bay Area regions does not work for our County.

Stanislaus County is nothing like the regions of San Francisco or Los Angeles. Our cases of COVID-19 are not nearly as predominant as those of our State's major population centers.

We are requesting that you adopt a strategy similar to that of the White House Coronavirus Task Force plan allowing regions within the State to do the same.

Throughout this pandemic, city Mayors working with Stanislaus County, and your recommendations, have been able to make decisions that lowered the spread of this Covid-19 pandemic.

Stanislaus County is the breadbasket of America, hardworking, patriotic, with a strong respect for the rule of law. We as Mayors, are each proud of how our citizens and businesses stepped up to help flatten the curve of the COVID-19 pandemic in our region.

Now, countless numbers of our citizens, and business owners, are suffering tremendous impacts as a result of the State's "Stay at Home" mandate; and again we, as Mayors, are most often the recipient of their requests for help.

Along with us Mayors, many of our citizens and businesses have been quite receptive to the reopening guidelines suggested by the Federal Government.

We would expect the initial reopening phase to still include proper social distancing, continued emphasis on frequent hand washing, retained isolation of at risks groups, proper use of PPE, sanitizing, a requirement to wear face covering when entering any business or group, limiting of group gatherings to no more than 50 persons, and not allowing sports gatherings with spectators.

Opening churches, mosques and synagogues for worship could be allowed, again with social distancing, prohibition of communion, passing the collection plate, hand shaking including the peace greeting, and any hugging or contact between congregates and the worship leader.

The first phase of reopening businesses could include barber shops and hair salons, dog grooming, restaurants, golfing, automatic car washing, and limited use of city parks.

Restaurants would have seating limitations and operate on a reservation only basis; and automatic car washers would be reopened with similar precautions currently in place for drive through restaurant service and drive through COVID-19 testing facilities.

These Stanislaus County Mayors respectfully request an immediate, aggressive, and balanced, reopening of businesses in our County.

We are prepared to discuss this with you, at you earliest convenience, and assist you in any way. Thank you for considering our position.

Respectfully,

Stanislaus County Mayors

Cc: California State Assembly Member Heath Flora
California State Assembly Member Adam Gray
California Senator Kathleen Galgiani
California State Senator Andreas Borgeas
United States Congressman Josh Harder
Stanislaus County Supervisor Kristin Olsen
Dr. Julie Vaishampayan, Stanislaus County Public Health Officer

CHRIS VIERRA, Mayor City of Ceres

JERAMY YOUNG, Mayor City of Hughson

TED BRANDVOLD, Mayor City of Modesto

J.R. McCARTY, Mayor City of Oakdale

RICHARD O'BRIEN, Mayor City of Riverbank

AMY BUBLAK, Mayor City of Turlock

A Ross

MIKE VAN WINKLE, Mayor City of Waterford