



CHAMBER
of
COMMERCE

Via Email Only

May 21, 2020

Sheila Kuehl
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
500 W. Temple St. #383
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Los Angeles County Re-Opening Orders and Protocols

Dear Supervisor Kuehl:

The Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce writes to you regarding the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's recent orders on re-opening and accompanying protocols – and our recommendations for future orders & protocols. We would like to thank you for your leadership during this challenging time and appreciate your work with the many public and private entities involved in this process.

We would like to raise two important issues.

First, County of Los Angeles protocols, which specify what procedures businesses must follow to re-open, are being released *after* re-opening orders are issued. For example, last week's May 13, 2020 revised Safer at Home Order allowed nearly all retailers to conduct curbside pickup, effective immediately. However, the protocols which businesses were required to comply with and post at their place of business before reopening *were not released until after the order was announced*. Releasing protocols after re-opening orders are issued creates confusion and delays as businesses scramble to comply, losing time they could already have their business re-open.

We ask that County protocols be released sufficiently in advance of future re-opening orders (we suggest one week) to give business time to prepare and be ready to re-open when the order is issued – and for organizations such as ours to communicate the updates.

Second, as you know, many businesses and their employees are suffering economically, particularly retailers and restaurants. We believe that like other industries (medical appointments, car repairs, etc.) a safe way can be found to further reopen businesses, especially as we proceed towards the summer which is typically a very busy time.

We therefore recommend the County swiftly move to implement the following:

- Permitting in-person appointments for retailers with appropriate safety precautions (social distancing, cleaning and related protocols). In-person appointments for retail will be critical to helping support brick and mortar retail and to allow retail businesses to recover.
- Permitting in-person dining to reopen, again with appropriate safety precautions (social distancing, cleaning and capacity protocols). Restaurants have been sitting empty for months and allowing at least a limited form of re-opening will be critical as we head towards the busy summer months.

The City of Beverly Hills prides itself on being a safe and healthy City and we are confident our businesses can operate at a high standard of care and safety for patrons.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Todd Johnson
President and CEO
Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce

CC: City of Beverly Hills, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health