



MILL VALLEY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER

To: City Council
From: Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce Board
Re: Tonight's City Council Meeting
Date: March 16, 2020

We support the City Council's declaration of a State of Emergency tonight. We hope this will free up state and federal resources to help our citizens, and in particular our local business owners who are experiencing devastating impacts already from the COVID-19 crisis, which will only be compounded with the newly announced "Shelter in Place" requirements through April 7.

We urgently ask the City Council to:

1. Obtain property tax payment relief for business owners from the County—delay or spread out payments over six months.
2. Defer City Business License fee payments through end of fiscal year.
3. Partner with the County to create an Emergency interest-free small business loan or grant program
4. Accelerate the Downtown Sewer Project while business is slow
5. Convene a conference call with local commercial property owners to explore both rent and City fee mitigations that will help our local businesses during this emergency.

For its part, the Chamber is also urgently:

1. Sharing all available information with our members on City efforts and local Bank and SBA lending programs, as well as other resources as they become available.
2. Urging commercial property owners to provide rent relief where possible.
3. Collaborating with the County Tourism Board to support our members

Thank you for considering these urgent requests.

Sincerely,

Felicia Ferguson
Board Chair