

Page 2

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Resolution

Attachment 2: Letters dated July 30, August 5, August 21 and August 26, 2020

Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of:

Resolution of the Board of Supervisors Proclaiming the Termination of the Placer County Declaration of Local Health Emergency Regarding COVID-19 and Rescinding Resolution No. 2020-034, as modified by Resolution 2020-137, in its entirety.

Resolution No.: _____

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held _____, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest:

Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020 Placer County Public Health reported the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Placer County; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020 the Placer County Public Health Officer issued a Declaration of Local Health Emergency, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 101080, and the County Executive Officer issued a proclamation of the existence of a county-wide local emergency, pursuant to Government Code Sections 8630 and 8558; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency ("State of Emergency") to formalize emergency actions and help prepare for the broader spread of the COVID-19 disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Placer County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution ratifying the Declaration of Local Health Emergency (“Resolution No.2020-034”); and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20 ordering all individuals in California to stay in their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of federal critical infrastructure sectors, thereby reducing and stopping non-essential businesses from continuing operations (“Stay at Home Order”); and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Placer County Health Officer issued a directive instructing individuals to shelter at their place of residence and restricting non-essential activities in response to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2020, the Placer County Health Officer issued an order, which was amended on April 16, 2020, to replace the March 19th Directive. The April 16, 2020 Order clarified, strengthened, and extended the terms of the previous directive to reduce person-to-person contact and increase physical distancing in order to further slow transmission of COVID-19. The Order was issued based on the increasing occurrence of cases of COVID-19, and it expired on May 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2020, the California State Public Health Officer and Director of the California Department of Public Health ordered that all local health jurisdictions in the state could begin a gradual movement into Stage 2 of California’s Pandemic Roadmap to Resilience, which allowed for the gradual reopening of businesses under the state order; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2020, the Board approved the Placer County Health Officer’s attestation for a variance from the California Department of Public Health to move more quickly through Stage 2 of California’s Pandemic Roadmap than the rest of the state; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2020, the California Department of Public Health granted Placer County’s variance application; and

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2020, several Stage 3 economic sectors in Placer County were allowed to resume operations after the California Department of Public Health provided guidance for how these sectors could reopen under the state’s guidelines; and

WHEREAS, numerous businesses and uses in Placer County resumed operations in Placer County in reliance on the State’s guidelines; and

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2020, Governor Newsom and the CDPH mandated the wearing of masks or cloth face coverings in most indoor public spaces, with very limited exceptions; and

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2020, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2020-137 which amended Resolution No. 2020-034 to return the authority to terminate the local health emergency to the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2020, Placer County, as a state condition to receive CARES Act funding (i.e. federal funding allocated to local governments under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act [HR 748; CARES Act]) certified that it would “adhere to federal guidance and the state’s stay-at-home requirements and other health requirements as directed in gubernatorial Executive Order N-33-20, and subsequent Executive Orders or statutes, and all California Department of Public Health orders, directives, and guidance in response to COVID-19 emergency”; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2020, Governor Newsom and the CDPH ordered that all counties on the state watch list for more than three days in a row would have to shut down bars and a range of indoor businesses, including dine-in restaurants, cardrooms and movie theaters; and

WHEREAS, on July 11, 2020, the State Public Health Officer issued an Amended State Public Health Officer Order for Placer County after Placer County was on the State’s county monitoring list for three days. The state order (which is still in effect) required the closure of bars and indoor operations for certain sectors (restaurants, wineries, family entertainment centers, zoos, museums, and cardrooms); and

WHEREAS, on July 13, 2020, Governor Newsom mandated a statewide shutdown of bars, indoor and outdoor service, and the shutdown of indoor dine-in restaurants, wineries, movie theaters, zoos, museums, cardrooms, and other entertainment centers. For counties, determined by the state CDPH to be on a “watch-list”, the order suspended indoor business for places of worship, fitness centers, shopping malls, personal care services, non-essential office spaces, hair salons and barbershops; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the state’s action, the businesses who had expended time and money to adhere to the State guidelines and reopened on or around June 12th were forced again to close down most operations; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2020, the CDPH released a school reopening framework that precluded schools from reopening for in-person instruction until 14 days after a county is removed for the state watch list. The CDPH also announced a waiver process by which elementary schools could reopen for in-person instruction if they were granted a waiver by the local Public Health Officer; and

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2020, the Governor and CDPH disclosed a state data glitch that resulted in an undercounting of the rate of COVID-19 infection from July 25, 2020 to August 4, 2020, caused up to 300,000 records to be backlogged, and led to CDPH freezing the state watch list, as of July 31, 2020, resulting in no county, including Placer, being able to move off the watch list until the State fixed its computer program problems; and

WHEREAS, finally on August 19, 2020, the County was removed from the Monitoring List and the 14-day countdown began to reopen schools in Placer; and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2020, the State Public Health Office issued a new framework entitled “Blueprint for a Safer Economy” (“Blueprint”), which the State

claimed would allow for the “safe progression of opening up more businesses in each county so impacts of any given change can be fully evaluated”; and

WHEREAS the Blueprint is a color coded four tier system with the tiers representing the “risk of community disease transmission” with an associated list of uses and businesses that can reopen and the percentage of reopening permitted. Tier 4 (Yellow) is characterized as “minimal transmission” and at the other end of the spectrum, Tier 1 (Purple) is characterized as “substantial transmission”; and

WHEREAS, as of August 28, 2020, the vast majority of counties, including Placer, were ranked in the “widespread” or most restrictive category (Tier 1- Purple), despite the fact that Placer and San Diego had been (as of that date) off the monitoring list for more than 14 days. While Placer remains in Tier 1, San Diego and San Francisco Counties have been ranked in Tier 2, the red zone, which allows a broader range of businesses and churches to open for limited indoor uses; and

WHEREAS, the County’s Public Health Officer pointed out to the Acting State Public Health Officer that the State used the County data for weeks ending 8/11 and 8/18 which “overlaps with when Placer County was still on the Monitoring List. As a result, Placer County has been placed in the most restrictive tier, Purple, despite having been removed from the Monitoring List on August 19.” (Letter dated August 28, 2020 from Placer County Health Officer Dr. Aimee Sisson to Acting State Public Health Officer Dr. Erica Pan); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sisson states in the same August 28th letter that the County’s “14-day case rate has steadily declined and its testing rate is at 4.0%. below the State threshold for this indicator”, and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2020, Dr. Pan responded to Dr. Sisson via email and acknowledged that both Placer and San Diego Counties “will have been off the County Data Monitoring list for 14 days as of 9/1st. Per our 7/17th framework, schools may reopen once a county is off of the CDM for 14 days/2 weeks, thus your schools are allowed to reopen unless you have stricter local health officer requirements as of 9/1st” (Pan Email August 28, 2020); and

WHEREAS, under this new Blueprint system, even at the Tier 4 level, many businesses and uses such as churches, movie theaters, gyms, restaurants, bars and family entertainment centers are only allowed to operate indoors at a 50% capacity; and

WHEREAS, the Governor admits that there is no Tier in the Blueprint system that will allow businesses and uses in any county to open up to 100% capacity or use even if a county achieved Tier 4 and remained in that Tier for weeks. The Governor stated in his August 28, 2020 press conference that the state didn’t “put up green because we don’t believe that there is a green light which says go back to the way things were or back to the pre-pandemic mindset”; despite the fact that the Governor can use other health directives such as face coverings, distancing, hand sanitizing, to continue to reduce the spread; and

WHEREAS, to qualify for the Tier 4 under the State’s Blueprint monitoring system, a county must have less than 1 new case per 100,000 residents and even then, businesses are limited to 50% capacity. This criterion does not constitute either a local

or state emergency that merits the State's continued actions to restrict businesses and uses, such as religious activities in churches, in either Placer County or the state; and

WHEREAS, the Governor in his September 2, 2020, news conference made the astounding recharacterization of the "COVID-19 pandemic" as the "Twindemic" and stated that the effort by the state will now be focused on fighting both COVID and the flu through "the flu season"; and

WHEREAS, the State's position is untenable for residents of Placer County and many other counties in the state. It will likely force a significant number of businesses to permanently close, livelihoods to be destroyed, and will result in substantial additional unemployment and evictions; and

WHEREAS, the State cannot support the continued restriction on businesses and uses from reopening when it has yet to articulate or establish the root cause of the spread of COVID-19 in the state; and

WHEREAS, the original intent of the State of Emergency and subsequent Stay at Home Order ("State Actions") was to prevent the catastrophic failure of the hospital system due to an anticipated surge of Covid-19 cases; and

WHEREAS, the Board concludes this has been prevented in Placer County; and

WHEREAS, the key implementation step of the State Actions was designed to "flatten the curve", in order to avoid the overcrowding of our hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the Board concludes that the curve has been flattened in Placer County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is informed and believes, based on expert opinion, that the State's response to the COVID-19 emergency has not prevented the spread of COVID-19, but only delayed the spread of COVID-19 cases and that the State's monitoring plans have not established that any of these restrictions on businesses and uses actually targets the root cause or prevents of the spread of COVID-19 in California; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is informed and believes, based on expert opinion, that the actual infection fatality rate of COVID-19 is substantially lower than reported by the CDC, that the current herd immunity threshold (H.I.T.) could very well be as low as 10% to 20% of any given population because the contact rate of each person varies and some individuals have prior immunity based on previous exposure to other coronaviruses, and that long-term mitigation efforts unnecessarily prolong the profound negative physical, mental, emotional and economic impacts created by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is informed and believes, based on expert scientific opinion, that COVID-19 is a serious virus that can lead to death and that particular segments of society, such as individuals over 65 and persons with pre-existing physical health conditions, are more susceptible to the negative effects of COVID-19 and that state or local restrictions, if any, should target those particular segments of the population; and

WHEREAS, recent information from the National Center for Health Statistics that underscored that most deaths are not *by* COVID but *with* COVID. By combining the two statistics, the state is setting the rate of deaths *by* COVID artificially high. Under the subheading labeled “comorbidities”, meaning the additional conditions people experienced in addition to a primary diagnosis such as COVID, the National Center for Health Statistics “shared that ‘for 6% of the deaths, COVID-19 was the only cause mentioned’ on the death certificate, meaning that only 6 percent of individuals had no underlying health complications other than COVID-19 reported when they died.” (The Scientist quoting the National Center for Health Statistics, September 2, 2020 article entitled “No the CDC Has Not ‘Quietly Updated’ COVID-19 Death Estimates”); and

WHEREAS, the Board is informed and believes, based on expert scientific opinion, that the state should carefully move towards a public health immunity instead of penalizing millions of Californians, and thousands of Placer County residents with more unproven and seemingly arbitrary restrictions as evidenced in the State’s August 28th Blueprint system; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is informed and believes, based on expert scientific opinion, that initial state actions have “flattened the curve” to allow for adequate preparation by the hospital system in Placer County and that the hospital system is not at risk of catastrophic failure due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of Wednesday, September 2, 2020, the Placer County COVID-19 dashboard reports that Placer County, with an estimated population of 398,329 by the U.S. Census Bureau, had 3,062 laboratory confirmed positive COVID-19 cases, 2,689 likely recovered COVID-19 cases, 34 deaths of persons with laboratory confirmed positive COVID-19 cases; and

WHEREAS, the known positive COVID-19 cases (3,062) represent 8 one-hundredth of 1% of the population of Placer County and the number of deaths (34) associated with COVID-19 represent 8 ten-thousandth of 1% of the population of Placer County; and

WHEREAS, based on the fact that the County’s COVID case numbers have steadily reduced in number through August, it is the Board’s conclusion that the circumstances that led to the Board’s resolution ratifying the March 4th Proclamation of Local Health Emergency no longer exist; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section 101080, the Board, having reviewed the need for continuing the Local Health Emergency and recognizing that it is obligated under statute to terminate the same at “the earliest possible date that the conditions warrant termination”, now conclude that current conditions related to COVID-19 in Placer County warrant termination of the Local Health Emergency and rescission of Resolution No. 2020-034.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Placer, State of California does hereby terminate, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section 101080, the Proclamation of Local Health Emergency and thereby rescind Resolution No. 2020-034, as modified by Resolution No. 2020-137 in its entirety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Placer, State of California that all residents of Placer County should recognize they are individually responsible for their own personal choices in response to COVID-19, that an individual's behavior could increase or decrease their chances of being infected by COVID-19 (a virus that can cause fatalities and other serious medical conditions) or having a family member infected, and that local government, in a free society, cannot eliminate all risk to COVID-19.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Placer, State of California that California's new Blueprint monitoring system establishes an arbitrary regulation of local economies to the significant financial detriment of citizens. The State's Blueprint system by the Governor's own admission has no "green tier" and therefore no end of state regulation regardless of what many medical experts would find to be a reasonable ratio of new cases per 100,000 population.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Placer, State of California, that the Governor's September 2, 2020 news conference recharacterization of the "COVID-19 pandemic" as the "Twindemic" and the Governor's stated goal that the effort by the state will be focused on fighting both COVID-19 and the flu through "the flu season" is an unwarranted extension of the present state of emergency. The Board finds this forecast an overreach of the Governor's authority under the State Emergency Act and an overregulation by the State of local county and city jurisdictions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Placer, State of California that the California State of Emergency and the state's stay-at-home requirements and other health requirements as directed in gubernatorial Executive Order N-33-20, and subsequent Executive Orders or statutes, and all California Department of Public Health orders, directives, and guidance ("State Requirements") remain in effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Placer, State of California, this resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

County of Placer

Board of Supervisors

175 FULWEILER AVENUE
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603
530-889-4010 • FAX: 530-889-4009
PLACER CO. TOLL FREE # 800-488-4308

BONNIE GORE
District 1

ROBERT M. WEYGANDT
District 2

JIM HOLMES
District 3

KIRK UHLER
District 4

CINDY GUSTAFSON
District 5



August 26, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: COVID-19 Statewide Response

Dear Governor Newsom:

This letter is to first communicate my thanks to you and to the staff at the California Department of Public Health for your collective professionalism and dedication while working through the numerous calamities now being faced by Californians. The Placer County Board of Supervisors knows that the COVID-19 pandemic, state wildfires, heat wave, energy blackouts, homeless conditions, and current cultural unrest that grips society have caused severe physical and mental suffering among Californians and we know that you and CDPH are working tirelessly at addressing the same.

As the current Chair on the Board of Supervisors, I see the same physical and mental anguish in Placer County residents. On a day to day basis, the Board receives calls and hears pleas from Placer County residents who are truly suffering from the COVID-19 emergency. Unfortunately, the suffering is not from COVID-19 alone, but from the State's response to the emergency.

The State's closing of some "non-essential" businesses but allowing other businesses to remain open when the exact same risk of infection exists is hard to explain to residents because it makes no sense and has not helped in the fight against COVID-19. The State's response causes tremendous economic hardship without any tangible benefit. While I appreciate your good intentions, please consider the following:

1. The original intent of the State of Emergency and subsequent Stay at Home Order ("State Actions") was to prevent the catastrophic failure of the hospital system due to an anticipated surge of Covid-19 cases and to "flatten the curve" so as to avoid the overcrowding of our hospitals. California has been successful in this effort.

2. The actual infection fatality rate of COVID-19 is substantially lower than the earliest predictions in March 2020. As of Tuesday, August 25, 2020, the Placer County COVID-19 dashboard reported that Placer County, with an estimated population of 398,329 by the U.S. Census Bureau, had 2833 laboratory confirmed positive COVID-19 cases, 2,478 likely recovered COVID-19 cases, and 32 deaths of persons with laboratory confirmed positive COVID-19 case. The known positive COVID-19 cases (2,833) represents less

than 1% of the population of Placer County and the number of deaths (32) associated with COVID-19 represents 8 thousandths of 1% or 1 of every 12,448 residents in Placer County.

By comparison, the CDC reports that 1 of every 5,705 Californians died of influenza/pneumonia in 2018.¹ The same year 1 of every 2,894 Californians died of chronic lower respiratory disease.² Even though the death rate is more than double for influenza/pneumonia, the state was able to manage without stay at home orders or business closures.

3. Based on expert opinion, the State's response to the COVID-19 emergency has not prevented the spread of COVID-19, but only delayed the spread of COVID-19 cases. During a shut down, the virus does not simply go away. The spread slows but it will reemerge until public health immunity is reached by natural infection or through a vaccine.

4. Based on expert opinion: (a) the actual infection fatality rate of COVID-19 is between 5 thousandth and 8 thousandth of 1% of the population; (b) the herd immunity threshold (H.I.T.) could be as low as 10% and 20% of any given population because the contact rate of each person varies and some individuals have prior immunity based on previous exposure to other coronaviruses and (c) the long-term mitigation efforts (such as a shelter in place order) unnecessarily prolonged the negative physical, mental, emotional and economic impacts created by COVID-19.

5. It is our hope that a vaccine will be developed in the near future. However, the timing for an approved vaccine (that will be accepted by the public) is unknown. In addition, it is always a possibility that COVID-19 will return each year similar to an influenza virus. Therefore, public policy cannot be based on waiting for a vaccine.

Public Health Immunity Response

At this point, the best defense in response to the existing COVID-19 emergency is a "Public Health Immunity" response that encourages good health behavior to limit the spread of COVID-19 but recognizes that COVID-19 positive cases will naturally increase, with or without government intervention, until Californians have public health immunity.

A public health immunity response means that Californians practice good health habits and social distancing protocols but continue with their normal lives until public health immunity is achieved through either the natural spread of COVID-19 or through the development and use of an approved vaccine. A public health immunity response should be proportional to the epidemic and balanced against the negative effects created by the response (i.e. government's cure should not be worse than the disease). This responsive strategy accepts that COVID-19 is a virus that exists and that each year persons could die from COVID-19 just like persons could die from influenza or pneumonia. Further, a public health immunity avoids the wasteful use of government time and money on failed programs, such as contact tracing, but instead focuses government

¹ 39.46 million Californians divided by 6,917 influenza/pneumonia deaths = 5705 deaths.

² 39.46 million Californians divided by 13,634 chronic respiratory deaths = 2,894 deaths.

Hon. Governor Gavin Newsom
Re: COVID-19 Statewide Response
August 26, 2020
Page 3

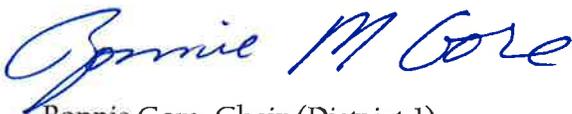
resources on protecting at risk population sectors, such as elderly persons in skilled nursing facilities. Furthermore, a public health immunity response recognizes that Californians are individually responsible for their own personal choices and that an individual's behavior could increase or decrease their chances of being infected by COVID-19 or having a family member infected. Finally, a public health immunity response acknowledges that government in a free society cannot (and should not try to) eliminate all risk to COVID-19 by creating social restrictions that have questionable effectiveness and cause serious collateral damage to California and its residents.

Next Steps

The State should give counties local control the discretion, based on infection rates in their jurisdictions, to determine the best course of action to address the coronavirus in their communities. We cannot allow our schools and businesses to be shut down until some unknown level of infection rate is met. Businesses and schools can open safely with safety protocols already in place. Continued shutdowns will only further result in mental, emotional and economic hardships. We must acknowledge that we should move toward public health immunity. Allow our communities to reopen, as appropriate, with safety protocols, based on their infection and death rates.

I understand that you are very busy and that neither you nor the CDPH have been able to respond to my correspondence to you dated July 30, 2020, August 5, 2020 and August 21, 2020. Our residents need assurances that the state is responding to their elected officials. Counties, by definition, are responsible for the public health of our residents and for providing direction and assistance during crises. Please accept these suggestions in the spirit they are being offered. Like you, the Placer County Board of Supervisors wants to continue to work together to combat COVID-19. Once again, I thank you in advance for taking the time to consider and respond to this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Gore, Chair (District 1)
Placer County Board of Supervisors

Attachments: Letters dated July 30, 2020, August 5, 2020 and August 21, 2020

cc: Placer County Board of Supervisors
Todd Leopold, Placer County Executive Officer
Shaw/Yoder/Antwih

County of Placer

Board of Supervisors

175 FULWEILER AVENUE
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603
530-889-4010 • FAX: 530-889-4009
PLACER CO. TOLL FREE # 800-488-4308

BONNIE GORE
District 1

ROBERT M. WEYGANDT
District 2

JIM HOLMES
District 3

KIRK UHLER
District 4

CINDY GUSTAFSON
District 5



August 21, 2020

Erica Pan, MD, MPH
Acting State Public Health Officer
California Department of Public Health
Post Office Box 997377
MS 0500
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

Re: *Businesses Opening Indoor Operations During Air Quality Emergency*

Dear Dr. Pan:

Thank you again for your continued efforts to keep our state residents safe from COVID-19.

We are writing to respectfully request that our local businesses be permitted to open indoor operations as soon as possible to protect our residents from the increasingly poor air quality due to these unprecedented wildfires.

The Placer County Board of Supervisors submitted a letter to you on August 19 requesting that our County be permitted to open businesses following 14 days from our removal from the watch list. Since then our state has been devastated with several horrific wildfires. Our county has been fortunate to not have a wildfire break out within our boundaries, however there are fires in communities around us which have significantly impacted the air quality of our entire county.

Placer County Health Officer, Dr. Aimee Sisson, stated that she does not recommend any person remain outdoors for an extended period when the Air Quality Index (AQI) is above 150. Today our main populated areas have an average AQI of 171. A representative of CalFire shared that we will likely see air quality at this level for at least the next two weeks.

In the continued spirit of collaboration, we have echoed your warnings about the spread of COVID-19. Our community has done an excellent job slowing the spread of COVID-19 as shown by our removal from the state watch list. With that said, our businesses that have already been struggling to stay open and have followed the state order to close or operate outdoors cannot continue to do so under these new circumstances.

We respectfully request that the businesses outlined in the July 13th statewide health order be allowed to reopen indoor operations in Placer County to protect public health. These include, gyms and fitness centers, places of worship, hair salons and barbershops, personal care services (nail salons, massage parlors, and tattoo parlors), and malls.

Further, although still listed as to be shut down throughout the state, we ask that restaurants, wineries and breweries be allowed to resume indoor operations for the same reasons listed above.

We believe these businesses will continue to implement precautions to keep employees and customers safe.

We appreciate your time and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Bonnie M. Gore
Chair, Board of Supervisors
Placer County, District 1



Cindy Gustafson
Member, Board of Supervisors
Placer County, District 5



Daniel Berlant
Mayor
City of Auburn



Dan Karleskint
Mayor
City of Lincoln



Jan Clark-Crets
Mayor
Town of Loomis



Greg Janda
Mayor
City of Rocklin



John B. Allard II
Mayor
City of Roseville

Cc: The Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom
Placer County Board of Supervisors
Todd Leopold, Placer County Executive Officer

County of Placer

Board of Supervisors

175 FULWEILER AVENUE
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603
530-889-4010 • FAX: 530-889-4009
PLACER CO. TOLL FREE # 800-488-4308

BONNIE GORE
District 1

ROBERT M. WEYGANDT
District 2

JIM HOLMES
District 3

KIRK UHLER
District 4

CINDY GUSTAFSON
District 5



August 5, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: *COVID-19 Statewide Response*

Dear Governor Newsom:

I write this letter to first express my sincere gratitude for your efforts on behalf of the State of California to fight SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19). Few, if any of us, could have predicted in January and February of this year the coming devastation that would be thrust upon our local communities, state, country, and world.

I further thank you for the recent distribution of the CARES Act dollars to the County of Placer. At the local government level, we have also worked hard to fight Covid-19. As a county supervisor, I witnessed firsthand Covid-19's catastrophic effect on children, adults, businesses, and churches (to name only a few). I know the federal CARES Act dollars will help our county address a small portion of the loss suffered by the residents of Placer County (for which I am grateful).

My constituents have asked me questions about the State's response to the Covid-19 public health emergency. At the local level, there is a sincere confusion as to your strategy to address Covid-19. Some businesses are forced to close while other businesses are open even though the risk of spreading Covid-19 is logically indistinguishable between the two businesses. You have frequently stated that the State response will be dictated by science, but the science to date has shown that there is an extremely low statistical chance (i.e. thousandths of one-percent of the state population) that any given person in the state will be hospitalized and die from Covid-19.

It has been expressed to me that at this point in the state of emergency, you cannot stop the Covid-19 spread rate without literally destroying our society. For example, a plan to suppress social interaction until the spread rate drops to a specific number could take years given that a successful vaccine is not guaranteed and people may not take a vaccine because, among other reasons, it was rushed to production without proper vetting. If the goal is to reduce the spread rate, then what is the acceptable spread rate and how are you balancing the negative physical, mental, and economic effects created by the shut-down itself?

By emphasizing standard, accepted precautions (e.g. social distancing, hand washing, face coverings, etc., etc.) but allowing normal business to occur for persons that are not the truly at risk population, like the elderly or physically compromised, wouldn't the state naturally move toward herd immunity, without a significant increase in the infection fatality rate? Why couldn't the State pivot toward a herd immunity policy while making sure the social supports, medical capacity and PPE are available to treat the at-risk populations?

That is, until immunity is achieved either through the natural spread process or through a vaccine, the state could focus the emergency response on the at-risk population, not the entire population.

Some constituents wonder if politics have taken over the State's response to Covid-19 and that after the November election there will be a dramatic shift in the State's response. I agree with you that during this time we must set politics aside. We all must continue to work together to find the best solutions to combat Covid-19 at all levels of government. I thank you in advance for taking the time to consider and respond to my correspondence.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Gore, Chair (District 1)
Placer County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Placer County Board of Supervisors
Todd Leopold, Placer County Executive Officer
Shaw/Yoder/Antwih

County of Placer

Board of Supervisors

175 FULWEILER AVENUE
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603
530-889-4010 • FAX: 530-889-4009
PLACER CO. TOLL FREE # 800-488-4308

BONNIE GORE
District 1

ROBERT M. WEYGANDT
District 2

JIM HOLMES
District 3

KIRK UHLER
District 4

CINDY GUSTAFSON
District 5



July 30, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the Placer County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to request your consideration in releasing federal CARES Act monies immediately to Placer County as our employees are the ones at the forefront of the COVID-19 crisis and are focused on supporting the dire needs of our communities.

As elected officials, our leadership through this tragedy is tested daily. As a local government we are responsible for the boots on the ground response, every hour of every day. This effort is led by our local Public Health Officer, public health employees, local businesses, residents, social workers, first responders, and a host of others, including our city partners. All of us in Placer County are committed to defeating this pandemic and helping restore our communities.

In the spirit of collaboration, we implore you to immediately release all local CARES Act funding as appropriated by the federal government as we work in our community to meet critical needs and achieve outcomes you, your team and all of us desire. Local leadership is on the front line of "doing what's necessary" for Californians. We are dedicated to doing what is right for our communities and request release of all CARES Act funding immediately.

In Placer County, we have already committed 80 percent of our CARES Act funding to support our residents through County operations, including our most vulnerable residents with housing and food services. We have also committed 20 percent to our local community in the form of small grants to businesses and non-profits which have been hit especially hard during this pandemic. We understand this funding will not solve all the problems; however, it is our hope it can bridge the gap until we can reopen our community safely.

Lastly, thank you for your support for local governments in recognizing the need for CARES funding. It is imperative we do not fail our most vulnerable residents and our success in meeting this challenge will be greatly increased when we are given our much-needed resources.

Thank you for your consideration to this request.

COUNTY of PLACER

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bonnie M. Gore".

Bonnie Gore, Chair (District 1)
Placer County Board of Supervisors

cc: Placer County Board of Supervisors; Todd Leopold, Placer County Executive Officer; Shaw/Yoder/Antwih

