

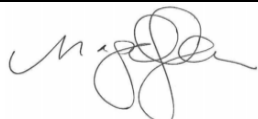
Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Councilmember Carrasco

SUBJECT: PAID SICK LEAVE ORDINANCE

DATE: April 28, 2020



Approved

Date April 28, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

1. Accept Mayors recommendations with one addition
 - a. Include targeted testing of high-risk communities.

DISCUSSION

I thank Mayor Liccardo for his proposal to set measurable goals for our community to return to our normal life and get us back to work and school. We have already seen from national and our local Santa Clara County data that COVID-19 is hitting black and Latino people hardest. The first cluster of infected residents occurred in my community and I believe Regional Hospital has the highest amount of patients which is located in my district.

We need to target these poor, minority communities if we are going to control this pandemic locally. Latino residents account for the largest share of cases and deaths in the county, 33 percent of reported infections and 34 percent of fatalities, despite comprising 27 percent of the population. There is a historical lack of access to education, open spaces and medical services such as testing that have led to increased rates of infections.

More people are uninsured in the low-income communities and have co-occurring medical conditions including high blood pressure, respiratory issues, diabetes, and obesity. We also know that immigration status is a huge barrier in obtaining insurance. All of these factors are killing our community and with COVID-19 that process is happening at rampant speed. This disease has amplified the racial health disparities in our community.

I ask that as we move forward we continue to use our demographic data on this disease to use our limited resources which will only assist those most impacted by COVID-19 but the entire community.