

Legislation Details (With Text)

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On agenda: 3/17/2020 **Final action:**

Title: Small Business Assistance Related to Novel Coronavirus.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. Memorandum from Diep, 3/12/2020, 2. Memorandum from Jones and Carrasco, 3/13/2020, 3. Letters from the Public

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/17/2020	1	City Council		

Small Business Assistance Related to Novel Coronavirus.

To bring much-needed relief to small businesses in San José adversely impacted by COVID-19, approve direction to the City Manager to:

1. Take the following actions:
 - a. Work with our Congressional delegation to urge the Trump Administration and the Small Business Administration to formally declare a disaster stemming from COVID-19 infections in Santa Clara County or geographic region that includes Santa Clara County so that federal assistance may be directed here specifically;
 - b. Reach out to the Governor's office to request priority for Santa Clara County over any state or federal assistance dollars, reflecting our heightened vulnerability;
 - c. Through the 2020-2021 Budget Process, set aside funding for our Office of Economic Development so they can build the capacity to:
 - i. Provide technical assistance to small businesses eligible for SBA loans;
 - ii. Become a singular resource for small businesses in need to learn about the various private and government relief programs available to them;
 - d. Reach out to the Silicon Valley Community Foundation and corporate partners in San José such as Google, Cisco, Adobe, and Apple in attempt to create a relief fund to give grants assisting small businesses impacted by COVID-19 to cover employee wages, rent, and other fixed costs similar to the \$5M fund Amazon has created for Seattle;
 - e. Reach out to the Silicon Valley Organization, other ethnic and minority chambers of commerce, and small business owners to create a Small Business Recovery Task Force to advise us on policy recommendations and assist with outreach to the business community;
 - f. Reassess the purpose of work2future to see what additional resources they may need to provide workforce training for an anticipated wave of newly unemployed workers due to COVID-19 under their current mandate or whether in light of these new circumstances we must broaden their mission;
 - g. Partner with local business organizations on co-marketing for a Shop Local campaign and delivery options;
 - h. Reduce or waive fees for city parking meters and garages during the crisis; and

2. Explore the possibility of:
- a. Deferring collection of business taxes until February 2021;
 - b. Deferring payment of utility bills;
 - c. Providing no-interest loans to qualified small businesses, to be paid back with federal assistance monies or private grants as these resources become available.

CEQA: Not a Project, PP17-004, Government Funding Mechanism or Fiscal Activity with no commitment to a specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment, and PP17-007, Preliminary direction to staff and eventual action requires approval from decision-making body. (Diep)

TO BE HEARD CONCURRENTLY WITH ITEM 8.2 PENDING ORDERS OF THE DAY