



City of El Segundo

Office of City Council

May 21, 2020

Elected Officials

*Drew Boyles,
Mayor*

*Chris Pimentel,
Mayor Pro Tem*

*Carol Pirsztuk,
Councilmember*

*Scot Nicol,
Councilmember*

*Lance Giroux,
Councilmember*

*Tracy Weaver,
City Clerk*

*Matthew Robinson,
City Treasurer*

Appointed Officials

*Scott Mitnick,
City Manager*

*Mark D. Hensley,
City Attorney*

Department Directors

*Barbara Voss,
Deputy City Manager*

*Joseph Lillio,
Finance*

*Chris Donovan,
Fire Chief*

*David Serrano,
Human Resources*

*Charles Mallory,
Information Systems*

*Melissa McCollum,
Library Services*

*Sam Lee,
Planning & Building Safety*

*Bill Whalen,
Police Chief*

*Mark Watkins,
Public Works*

*Meredith Petit,
Recreation & Parks*

Honorable Supervisor Janice Hahn
County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Request to Eliminate Retail Curbside-Only Restrictions and Allow South Bay Businesses and Restaurants to Reopen under State and County Phase 3 Guidelines

Honorable Supervisor Hahn:

Thank you for your ongoing support and continued effort on behalf of South Bay communities. We understand that this is a difficult and unprecedented time and every elected leader has to make challenging decisions in response to this pandemic.

We are urgently writing to you because small business owners, restaurants in particular, in the City of El Segundo and throughout the South Bay region need your immediate help. Businesses are experiencing significant losses in income with each day that they are partially or fully closed. Limiting small retailers to curbside only pickup is unsustainable and will result in rising business closures and job losses. **As a result, El Segundo City Council respectfully requests that all South Bay retailers and restaurants, be allowed to reopen immediately within the Phase 3 guideline.**

Given the size and diversity of Los Angeles, it is not surprising that the impact of COVID-19 has differed across the County. While Los Angeles County has entered Stage 2 of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Recovery Framework, there are areas within the County that are less affected by the pandemic, such as the South Bay in general; and, El Segundo in particular. If El Segundo and the other South Bay cities can demonstrate an ability to protect the public and essential workers, we should be allowed to forge ahead into the less restrictive aspects of Stage 3. A similar variance concept has already been authorized at the State level for counties that are able to attest that they are able to protect the public and essential workers.

El Segundo is epidemiologically stable of COVID-19 cases and is low enough to be swiftly contained by an epidemiological response. In fact, there have only been 32 total cases in El Segundo with only two active cases within the past 14 days. El Segundo has not had any deaths related to COVID-19 to date.

El Segundo has provided clear guidance and necessary resources to ensure the safety of critical infrastructure workers that work within the City. Simultaneously, there is an ample amount of supplies, including disinfectant, hand sanitizer, and essential protective gear. All public safety organizations are fully staffed and ready to respond to any incident that may occur including any report of pandemic surge.

El Segundo has maintained its All-Hazards Incident Management Team which has effectively managed the incident and provided direction to City employees, essential workers, and the public regarding COVID-19 issues since March 18, 2020. The City will maintain this posture as long as needed to remain prepared for any future pandemic issues.

El Segundo falls under the South Region of LA County EMS reporting area for hospital availability. Over the past two weeks, the South Region hospitals have had an average of 245 beds available for surge and also maintained an average of 45 ICU beds over the past 14 days. The South Bay can accommodate a minimum surge of 35% due to COVID-19 patients within the existing infrastructure. In addition, hospital facilities have robust plans to protect hospital workers, both clinical and non-clinical with PPE while simultaneously maintaining plans to grow surge capacity, if needed. El Segundo continues to maintain an emergency operations plan which includes pandemic as a potential hazard. It has also developed a reconstitution plan that takes into account COVID-19 risks. These plans can be immediately implemented at the direction of the City Manager and carried out by its All-hazards Incident Management Team, City's emergency service agencies, and other City stakeholders.

For these reasons, El Segundo is prepared and ready for movement into the less restrictive portions of the Los Angeles County Public Health Recovery Framework.

As a result, the City of El Segundo respectfully requests that the County of Los Angeles, along with the State of California, allow retailers (and restaurants) throughout the South Bay to open within the Phase 3 guidelines while following the State and County safety protocols.

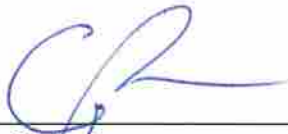
Having shared all this, please stand with your local businesses and allow them to open this Memorial Day weekend so their recovery can begin. Should you have any questions, please contact City Manager Scott Mitnick at (310) 524-2301 or smitnick@elsegundo.org.

Sincerely,

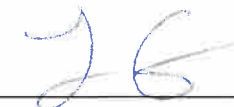
City of El Segundo City Council



Drew Boyles
Mayor



Chris Pimentel
Mayor Pro Tem



Lance Giroux
Councilmember



Scot Nicol
Councilmember



Carol Pirsztuk
Councilmember

CC: Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom
Honorable State Senator Ben Allen
Honorable State Assemblymember Autumn Burke
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
El Segundo City Council
South Bay City Councils