



**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
COUNCIL PRESIDENT GEORGETTE GÓMEZ**

April 13, 2020

Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Baja California during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Dear Governor Newsom,

I am writing to respectfully urge you to consider lending a hand to our partners across the border by providing personal protective equipment (PPE) and other necessary equipment to aid Baja California in their shared fight against COVID-19.

The bi-national San Diego-Tijuana region is facing the catastrophic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. San Diego's Sister City, Tijuana, has an urgent need for medical supplies, ventilators, basic equipment, and protective gear for medical staff and for patients. While I recognize that the State of California is also in dire need of PPE and other supplies, I reach out to you to request our State lends support to Baja California, whose partnership fuels our bi-national region's robust economy. As you know, COVID-19 knows no borders and does not discriminate. Due to our close proximity and transnational partnership, any assistance for Baja California is assistance for the State of California.

Specifically, the City of Tijuana in Baja California is gearing up to confront the increase of positive cases and currently relies on a limited infrastructure that will leave many bi-national residents without access to care. With a population of more than 2 million, Tijuana is bracing for being hit the hardest with COVID-19. As of today, Tijuana has registered 240 confirmed cases and 20 deaths¹, many of those confirmed cases are members of the medical provider community. The General hospital and other medical service providers are ready to receive support our State is able to provide.

¹ | Información oficial del nuevo Coronavirus(COVID-19) 04- 13-2020. <http://www.bajacalifornia.gob.mx/coronavirus?id=0>

California has been a leader during this pandemic and I urge you to please consider providing resources to Baja California community. San Diego-Tijuana is one region and we hope to lend a hand to our Sister City as they brace for the impacts of COVID-19.

My office stands available to provide any contacts and information to the proper entities in the region that are leading these efforts. Please do not hesitate to contact Gloria Cardenas at (619) 368-2437, gcardenas@saniego.gov.

Sincerely,



Georgette Gómez
Council President, City of San Diego

CC:

Senate President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Honorable Ben Hueso, Senate District 40
Honorable Lorena Gonzalez, Assembly District 80