Dear Community,

My office continues to closely monitor the rapidly evolving situation around the COVID-19 global pandemic and the impacts on our city and county. We are diligently working to provide our community with accurate information. Since my last update, here’s what you need to know.

Special City Council Meeting

There is a special meeting of the City Council scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17 at Golden Hall, to ratify the Mayor’s state of emergency declaration and act on a comprehensive package of legislation to help lessen the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on San Diego’s most at-risk residents.

Governor Newsom’s Updates on Sunday, March 15

- Seniors 65+ and those with chronic conditions must self-isolate
- Bars, breweries, wineries, etc. should close
- Restaurants to cut their occupancy in half, focus on takeout, implement social distancing (6 feet between people)
- State is acquiring hotels and motels for unsheltered and other vulnerable populations
- State guidelines forthcoming regarding evictions and for schools and childcare facilities that have chosen to remain open
- State looking to bring a minimum of 750 additional hospital beds online

San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) Meal Distribution

Effective today (Monday, March 16, 2020) - to assist families during the school closing period - packaged meals will be distributed at drive-thru/walk-up stations at various locations including, O’Farrell Charter School, 6130 Skyline Drive, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. More schools in our community may have food available as needed. Children will need to be present to receive meals, and each child ages 18 years and younger can take one lunch and one breakfast for the next day. All food will be consumed off site. For more information on school closings and updates, please visit: https://sites.google.com/sandi.net/covid19/home

Computers 2kids

Families in need of a computer are encouraged to contact Computers2Kids. The company offers desktops and laptops, loaded with Microsoft Office software, for $80 - $100. This includes one-year free technical support. Families can go to www.c2sdk.org or call (858) 200-9788 for more information.

Recreation Centers, Libraries, Pools

The City of San Diego recreation centers, libraries, and pools are closed effective today, March 16 through April 6, 2020, unless an extension is warranted. For more information, please visit: https://www.sandiego.gov/coronavirus

Public Utilities, SDG&E, Cox

The City is suspending water shutoffs for non-payment. To contact Public Utilities, please call (619) 515-3500 or email customercare@sandiego.gov.

In addition, SDG&E and Cox have also temporarily suspended all service disconnections.

- SDG&E is also urging those struggling to pay their bill due to financial hardships to call 1-800-441-7373 to make payment arrangements.
- For more information on what Cox is doing, please visit: https://newsroom.cox.com/cox_internet_changes_to_assist_students_-_remote_workers

MTS

Precautions are being responsibly implemented on our public transit system, including at the station on Euclid Avenue in our community. Handwashing stations and additional cleaning crews will be staffed throughout the day at the busiest stations. For the latest rider information related to COVID-19, please visit the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System Public Health web page (link is external).

City’s New Coronavirus Website

Please bookmark these new websites: the City’s updates on the coronavirus: https://www.sandiego.gov/coronavirus, and health and wellness resources from 2-1-1: https://211sandiego.org/resources/health-wellness/

Suspected Price Gouging

Price gouging is illegal. Overcharging for essential goods or services by more than 10% is illegal unless the business can show their own costs have increased. If you suspect a business is engaging in price gouging, please report it to the District Attorney’s Consumer Protection Unit at 619-531-3507 or the Attorney General’s Office at 1-800-776-4771, or online at https://oag.ca.gov/consumers/pricinggougingduringdisasters.

YMCA

Effective on the close of business on March 13, the Y has canceled all programming for children and adults until further notice. For more information, please visit: https://www.ymcasd.org/about-y/news-center/general/important-update

Employment Rights

Legal Aid at Work has created a fact sheet highlighting some frequently asked questions around employment and the coronavirus (#COVID19). For more information, please visit legalaidatwork.org. DISCLAIMER: This fact sheet provides general information relating to employment rights in California, but do not rely on this information without consulting an attorney.

Sincerely,

Monica Montgomery, Councilmember
Fourth Council District