



City Councilmember Scott Sherman

District 7

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Sherman, Regional Mayors, and Business Leaders Urge County Government to Open More Business

*Local Government needs more Control
to Responsibly Reopen Economy*

San Diego – San Diego residents have done their part to flatten the curve and ensure hospital capacity would not be overwhelmed. Our region has followed every order and request asked by government and health officials to protect fellow San Diegans.

Through this action came much sacrifice. Today, thousands of San Diegans have found themselves without jobs or their pay severely cut. Some economists suggest that the unemployment rate could be over 20 percent. With this comes increased cases of depression and mental illness. It is time to responsibly reopen San Diego's economy.

This Friday, Governor Gavin Newsom will revise his stay at home order to stage two, which will allow the reopening of some sectors including some retail, manufacturing, and logistics businesses. Mayor Faulconer and the San Diego County Board of Supervisors have already approved guidelines for this phase.

Additionally, the Governor's orders allow individual counties throughout the state to move more quickly through stage two if the county creates and submits a readiness plan. Today, Councilmember Scott Sherman, El Cajon Mayor Bill Wells, San Marcos Mayor Rebecca Jones, Phil Pace, founder of Phil's BBQ, and East County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Rick Wilson urged the County Government to begin the process immediately.

"San Diegans have sacrificed much to flatten the curve and many are now struggling. Our region has shown that we can act responsibly," said Councilmember Scott Sherman. "I urge the County Board of Supervisors to begin immediate work so our region can move more quickly through phase two and open more businesses."

“The only way to get our region back to work is through our small businesses. 98 percent of businesses in our region are small businesses,” said San Marcos Mayor Rebecca Jones. “It’s only right that small business owners who can open responsibly be given the same opportunities as big box corporations.”

The coalition also urged Governor Newsom to give local counties and municipalities more power to amend stay at home orders. As we have seen, a one size fits all policy for the state is not appropriate, each region has unique needs and challenges.

“I appreciate the strong efforts of the Governor to flatten the curve of this dangerous virus,” said El Cajon Mayor Bill Wells. “But now is the time to give local governments more control to safely open up our economy.”

“The individuals with the best knowledge of the situation on the ground are the elected officials who live in the same neighborhoods as those who are currently locked down. We need more local control,” said Councilmember Sherman.

“Businesses and working people initially accepted the hard realities of the COVID-19 pandemic largely for the good of everyone with many believing a few weeks of lockdown would be the result,” said East County Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Rick Wilson. “Close to two months later, it is now time for our elected representatives to consider swift action to reverse this significantly growing economic morasses.”

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