

Attachment No. 1
3-20-20 Downtown Business Association and Arts District Request

(1) Consideration of Various Tax and Utility Fee Waivers, Reductions and Delayed Payments for Culver City Businesses Impacted by City Orders Related to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), and (2) FOUR-FIFTHS VOTE REQUIREMENT: Approval of Budget Amendments Related to Those Waivers and Reductions that are Granted.

From: Darrel Menthe <dmenthe@sagelawpartners.com>

Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 10:04:23 AM

To: Nachbar, John <john.nachbar@culvercity.org>

Cc: George Montgomery (gm3@me.com) <gm3@me.com>; Sahli-Wells, Meghan <Meghan.Sahli-Wells@culvercity.org>; Small, Thomas <Thomas.Small@culvercity.org>; Eriksson, Goran <Goran.Eriksson@culvercity.org>; Fisch, Alex <Alex.Fisch@culvercity.org>; Lee, Daniel <Daniel.Lee@culvercity.org>; Sylvia (sylvia@downtownculvercity.com) <sylvia@downtownculvercity.com>; Eric Sims <esims@ctgla.org>

Subject: Important Message from Business Improvement Districts

John Nachbar, City Manager
cc: Mayor and City Council
March 20, 2020

Dear John,

George Montgomery and I are writing to you respectively on behalf of the two Business improvement Districts in Culver City, the Arts District and the Downtown Business Improvement District. There are certain specific administrative measures that can be taken to immediately help the businesses in these districts. We believe the following would be of immediate assistance:

1. Reduce and/or defer trash collection fees, in part because the lack of on-site dining means a lot less garbage. Collection frequency can be correspondingly reduced.
2. Waive restrictions on outdoor signage for "sandwich board" signs (not blocking sidewalks) and banners. These will allow businesses to communicate that they are open and/or able to deliver food.
3. Reduce and/or defer any other utility payments made to the City.
4. Waive all outdoor dining fees because nobody has any dining.
5. Permit all persons to park temporarily in loading zones and special rideshare pickup zones (downtown only) to facilitate food delivery services and pickup/dropoff.
6. Eliminate the need to pay meters or pay machines for on-street parking spaces for the first 15 minutes. (The ability to do this will vary by type of space and payment methods, we realize.)
7. Additional police patrolling for security purposes.
8. Defer payment of all business license taxes for 180 days.

In addition, both Business Improvement Districts are entirely dependent on assessments, usually paid once a year in early March. Collection was delayed this year and the corona virus may further reduce or

delay payments. Collection is now also being made as part of the business license tax payments, which we are asking to defer.

Therefore, we request that the City advance to each BID the amount of budgeted assessments in the 2020 renewals less any payments already made: \$198,000 to the Downtown BID, \$40,000 to the Arts District BID. The situation is dire: if payments are not received, both BIDs will be unable to make payroll and must lay off all staff within approximately 30 days and shut down all operations. That also means that Chrysalis will also not be able to work in downtown and will likely lay off a number of vulnerable employees whom we will be unable to pay.

The Board of Directors of the Downtown Culver City BID has had two emergency meetings in the past week and supports these requests.

Sincerely,

George Montgomery, President, Arts District BID
Darrel Menthe, President, Downtown Culver City BID

Darrel C. Menthe



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