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Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment



From: CORI HAYMAN <corihayman@cox.net>
Sent: Sunday, July 5, 2020 3:21 PM
To: sbcob; sbcob
Cc: Williams, Das; Adam, Peter; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Lavagnino, Steve; Brian Goebel
Subject: Public Comment re: Board of Supervisors Meeting, July 7th, Item D-1; 20-00281 (COVID-19)
Attachments: Dear Chair Hart and Members of the Board of Supervisorsfinal77.docx

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Dear Clerk of Board,

Please accept the following attachment for public comment from Brian Goebel and myself in connection with the above-referenced item.

Thank you,

Cori Hayman.

Public Comment re: Board of Supervisors Meeting, July 7th, Item D-1; 20-00281

Dear Chair Hart and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

In connection with COVID-19, we provide the following public comment:

A. Need for Detailed Data Regarding Increase in County Hospitalizations

The County has experienced an increase in COVID-19 hospitalizations since June 1st. On that date, there were 29 confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations in the County. As of Thursday, July 2d, there were 64 confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations. In order for the public to understand the community spread of COVID-19, we believe that County Public Health should provide the following detail:

- (1) Number of COVID-19 hospitalizations received from skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, or other long-term care settings comprised of elderly or vulnerable members of the population;
- (2) Number of COVID-19 hospital transfers received from outside the County (Imperial County and elsewhere);
- (3) Number of COVID-19 hospitalizations received from prisons, jails, and juvenile hall facilities (Lompoc Federal Prison, County and cities);
- (4) Likely sources of infection for the remaining hospitalizations (e.g., workplace, family member, social outing, essential shopping, or civil rights protest); and,
- (5) Age and pre-existing medical condition(s) (if any) for each hospitalization.

B. Need for Carefully Crafted Public Health Measures

Without a clear understanding of who is ending up in our hospitals and where they are acquiring the virus, it is impossible to develop and implement

appropriately tailored public health measures to address the actual causes of hospitalizations. Instead, we are left with overly-broad public health orders affecting numerous industries and virtually all demographics with seemingly little correlation to risk and the factors driving hospitalizations. For example, roughly half of the State's fatalities from COVID-19 stem from adult care and living facilities. It is by no means clear how the closure of our beaches over the holiday weekend will safeguard the residents of such facilities.

C. Need for Detailed Hospitalizations Stemming from the Border Crossings into Imperial County on a Statewide Level

As of June 26th, Imperial County had transferred 500 COVID-19 patients throughout Southern and Northern California hospitals. American citizens and legal residents needing COVID-19 hospitalization continue to cross the border. Due to the rate of increased hospitalizations, on June 30th and again on July 1st, Governor Newsom ordered various snap-back measures in 19 counties, including Santa Barbara, representing 75% of the State's population. Given the large number of hospitalizations coming out of Imperial County, we believe that the Board of Supervisors should obtain from the Governor's Office an understanding of the total number of current and projected transfers coming into the State and its impact on the State's reopening metrics. At a minimum, we believe that the Board of Supervisors should resist further State restrictions until this data is provided.

Thank for your consideration and continuing leadership.

Brian Goebel and Cori Hayman.