

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment - Group 6



From: Rob Raede <rraede@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 3:29 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve
Subject: Public Comment Board of Supervisors Hearing, May 19th, 2020, Item 20-00281 (COVID 19)
Attachments: Public Comments May 19, 2020.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

To The Clerk of the Board:

We respectfully submit these Public Comments for the Supervisors Hearing May 19, 2020. Thank you.

Dear Supervisors,

Our Group “ReOpen Santa Barbara – Post Your Best Ideas” has continued to generate many good ideas for the safe and speedy reopening of Santa Barbara County, with now over 1100 ideas and comments being posted. We will share some of them below.

I'm afraid we need to also report that the tone of the conversation has taken on a harder edge, with more and more people expressing anger and frustration with the continued lockdown. To summarize: we did what Sacramento asked, we stayed home to flatten the curve, and we accomplished that 4-5 weeks ago. And now in a county with very few deaths and active cases (outside of the Lompoc Prison numbers) we remain trapped in economic limbo.

The Governor says 70% of CA economy is still operating, but we all know that in SB county its likely closer to the inverse—maybe we're operating at 30% capacity—given how much our hospitality, restaurant, wine, tour, and retail businesses rely on tourism.

It is time for the Board of Supervisors to do more. It is time for you folks to take the decision making out of the hands of Sacramento.

Maybe Sacramento's rules and restrictions make some sense for some other counties, where going on wet sand but not dry sand at the beach seems logical. But they don't make sense here. We have the virus under control, we aren't overwhelming the hospitals, hardly anyone has died and very few outside of Lompoc Prison are “active cases”.

Santa Barbara is ready to reopen, people are done with the quarantine and you can see it when you go for a walk or bike ride....3 weeks ago most people had a mask on. Two weeks ago maybe half. Last week about 20%, and this weekend maybe 5%.

Call it the 'mask indicator'...People are angry and frustrated and they're going to start expressing that in non-positive ways if we don't do something soon.

Your efforts in the past weeks have been admirable, but Sacramento is not listening. So you need to ask yourselves the following questions:

--What are we doing differently TODAY to put pressure on the Governor to separate out the prison numbers from the rest of the county?

--What are you doing TODAY to remove the 'new cases' requirement?

--What are you doing TODAY to make it clear to the Governor that SB County is not like other places in California, and we are ready and need to begin reopening NOW.

Our focus at “ReOpen Santa Barbara remains on the positive, and in that spirit we commend to you some of the ideas posted this past week:

- 1) Reopen the schools. People cannot go to work if they need to stay home to care for their children. The data and science support this decision, and it is a necessary first step to get the economy going again. (credit: Laura Hout)
- 2) Band together with other nearby counties, Ventura and SLO eg, to form a 'voting block' of sorts to carry more weight in negotiations with Sacramento. (credit: Timothy Brummer).
- 3) Reopen the Goleta Drive-In theater and similar venues so we can enjoy movies (and maybe concerts) in our cars. (credit: Alix Seeple)

Respectfully submitted,
ReOpen Santa Barbara

Ramirez, Angelica

From: CORI HAYMAN <corihayman@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 9:06 AM
To: sbcob; sbcob
Cc: Williams, Das; Hartmann, Joan; Hart, Gregg; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve; Brian Goebel
Subject: Public Comment from Brian Goebel and Cori Hayman re Board of Supervisors Meeting 5/19/2020; Item D-1; 20-00281
Attachments: Dear Chair Hart and Members of the Board of Supervisors7.pdf

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Clerk of Board,

Please accept the attached document for public comment for tomorrow's Board meeting, Item D-1; 20-00281. I would appreciate a confirmation email that you have received this.

Thank you,

Cori Hayman.

Public Comment from Brian Goebel and Cori Hayman Re Board of Supervisors Meeting, May 19th, Item D-1; 20-00281 (COVID-19).

Dear Chair Hart and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for your continuing leadership during the COVID-19 Crisis. We have two items on which we would like to provide public comment.

The Board of Supervisors Should Approve the RISE Framework

We support the RISE framework and believe that its criteria for assessing when to change public health measures are far more appropriate than those set forth by the Governor. We encourage the Board to adopt it as a living document throughout the reopening process.

The Board of Supervisors Must Pursue Additional Options to Lift the Stay at Home Order

The Governor has failed to respond to the Board's letter seeking revisions to the epidemiological criteria requiring no death over a 14-day period and 1 positive case per 10,000 over the same period. The Board must therefore explore additional mechanisms for seeking relief from the Governor's case and fatality criteria so that the County may file its attestation and loosen its public health measures more rapidly than the State (*i.e.*, proceed more rapidly through Stage 2). We encourage the Board to publicly support the efforts being pursued jointly by Riverside, San Bernardino, and Orange County to obtain relief from the Governor's criteria.

Finally, we would like to respectfully remind the Board of each member's oath of office to uphold the Constitution in fulfilling his or her obligations in representing the people of the County. As previously stated, the legal and policy basis supporting the exercise of police power in the form of the statewide stay at home order was to ensure adequate healthcare capacity to treat a surge of COVID-19 patients. It has been clear for 6 weeks that California has adequate healthcare capacity, and hospitalizations continue to fall. Moreover, instead of a statewide COVID-19 emergency, California now faces a chronic COVID-19 outbreak in Los Angeles County (which accounts for the majority of COVID-19 activity in the State)

and stable or improving conditions virtually everywhere else. It is hardly clear how a *statewide* emergency can be justified on these facts. The people of Santa Barbara County have complied with the order for two months now and are facing an economic and social disaster of catastrophic proportions. Hospital admissions remain very low (27 as of May 17th), even with the prisoner population. There is no legal or policy justification supporting the current statewide stay at home order and the Governor's continuing action is treading on unconstitutional grounds. We would therefore encourage the Board to ask County Counsel to prepare an opinion discussing the Board's legal options for seeking relief from the Governor's criteria, including its ability to move beyond Stage 2 under its own criteria, and that the Board hold a special meeting to discuss reopening strategies prior to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.¹

Thank you for your consideration,

Brian Goebel and Cori Hayman.

¹ We note that the Board's next scheduled meeting does not occur until June 2d. We request that the Board schedule a special meeting well in advance of that date to discuss reopening strategies.

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Raye Perez <tiberius.hestdalen@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 2:27 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment for 5/19/20 BOS Meeting

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like the following public comment to be read into the record as time allows:

Recently, several county officials have called to remove the Covid-19 cases originating in the Lompoc prison complex from Santa Barbara county's official numbers. This is an irresponsible decision that will cause more harm to our economy and community. While a field hospital is currently operational on site, all incarcerated people who require ICU care must be transferred to Cottage Hospital, meaning that they are directly in contact with other residents of SB County and using the resources of SB County. Because of this, claiming that the prison population is separate from the county population is inaccurate and does not account for the resources used by people incarcerated at the complex. This material strain can be mitigated, but only if the prison complex is pressured to provide adequate health and safety measures, such as appropriate social distancing, PPE, stopping additional incarcerations, and appropriate releases of vulnerable populations. As such, we demand that the Board place additional pressure on Salud Carbajal, Western Regional Bureau of Prisons director Gene Beasley, and the acting warden of Lompoc prison complex to apply further mitigation strategies, as well as reviewing their authority and doing whatever is in their power to further stop the spread of Covid-19 at the Lompoc prison complex.

Thank you,
Raye Perez

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Mariah Brennan Clegg <mariah.brennan.clegg@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:07 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment Tuesday, May 19th, 2020 - General Public Comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

I would like to submit the following public comment as a general, non-item specific public comment for the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, May 19th, 2020. **I would like my comment to be read into the record.**

“My name is Mariah Clegg, and I am doctoral researcher at UCSB. I study the intersection of the mass incarceration system and ecological crisis. The Board has recently called to remove the Covid-19 cases originating in the Lompoc prison complex from Santa Barbara county’s official numbers. This is an irresponsible decision that will cause more harm to our economy and community. While a field hospital is currently operational on site, all incarcerated people who require ICU care must be transferred to Cottage Hospital, meaning that they are directly in contact with other residents of SB County and using the resources of SB County. Because of this, claiming that the prison population is separate from the county population is inaccurate and does not account for the resources used by people incarcerated at the complex. This material strain can be mitigated, but only if the prison complex is pressured to provide adequate health and safety measures, such as appropriate social distancing, PPE, stopping additional incarcerations, and appropriate releases of vulnerable populations. As such, we demand that the Board place additional pressure on Salud Carbajal, Western Regional Bureau of Prisons director Gene Beasley, and the acting warden of Lompoc prison complex to apply further mitigation strategies, as well as reviewing their authority and doing whatever is in their power to further stop the spread of Covid-19 at the Lompoc prison complex.”

Take care,
Mariah Clegg
University of California, Santa Barbara

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Sarah Henderson <shenderson689@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:08 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public comment for 5/19

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Clerk of the City of Santa Barbara,

My name is Sarah Henderson and I would like to submit the following public comment for the City Council Meeting on May 19 2020, for Item 6: Sheriff, Probation. If possible I would like my comment read into the record:

"The County jail facilities pose risks to the health of incarcerated people. Currently, inmates who leave the facility or are in contact with people outside of the facility are forced to endure a two week quarantine, which is easily comprable to solitary confinement, a form of torture. We demand that this quarantine not be required and instead be replaced with requiring all parties to wear appropriate PPE when in contact with an incarcerated person, as well as with accessible testing upon reentry of the facility. Additionally, conditions in the South County facility are unsafe and unsuited to handle the current crisis. As such, we demand that the current population be relocated to the North County facility, which would not only be safer for those incarcerated but would also cut operational and staffing costs."

Thank you,
Sarah Henderson

Ramirez, Angelica

From: CORI HAYMAN <corihayman@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 3:42 PM
To: sbcob; sbcob
Cc: Williams, Das; Lavagnino, Steve; Hartmann, Joan; Hart, Gregg; Adam, Peter; Brian Goebel
Subject: Supplemental Public Comment from Brian Goebel and Cori Hayman re BoS meeting, 5/19/2020; Item D-1; 20-00281
Attachments: Dear Chair Hart and Members of the Board of Supervisors8.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Clerk of Board,

Attached please find a supplemental public comment for the Board of Supervisors meeting tomorrow, item D-1; 20-00281. I would appreciate a confirmation reply.

Thank you,

Cori Hayman.

Supplemental Public Comment from Brian Goebel and Cori Hayman Re Board of Supervisors Meeting, May 19th, Item D-1; 20-00281 (COVID-19).

Dear Chair Hart and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

As a follow-up to our prior comment, and in light of Governor Newsom's revised criteria announced earlier today, we would like to extend our appreciation for your successful advocacy before the State to allow the County to proceed with filing an attestation that the County meets the guidelines for further reopening. We also would like to acknowledge the efforts of the County Public Health Officer, Public Health Department, and staff. We encourage you to move as swiftly as possible to reopen to the greatest extent feasible in stage 2.

Thank you,

Brian Goebel and Cori Hayman.