

de la Guerra, Sheila

Public Comment-Group 16 #1



From: Renée DePaco <renee.depaco@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 10:39 PM
To: Ansorg, Henning; Do-Reynoso, Van; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve; Miyasato, Mona; sbcob; assemblymember.limon@assembly.ca.gov
Cc: cmurillo@santabarbaraca.gov; KSneddon@santabarbaraca.gov; EFriedman@santabarbaraca.gov; OGutierrez@santabarbaraca.gov; mharmon@santabarbaraca.gov; MJordan@santabarbaraca.gov; algutierrez@santabarbaraca.gov
Subject: School closure

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.

Hello, I'm writing to express my concerns about the continued closure of schools.

I have four young children, three of whom are in elementary school and one in preschool. My youngest child has been back in preschool since the facility reopened in June. My three older children have attended various summer camps during the same time frame. All of these activities have been carefully controlled - with temperature checks, health questions at drop off, and masks - and have gone off without incident.

As a parent, I would be letting my children down if I didn't advocate on their behalf for their education and social/emotional well-being. It's difficult for me to reconcile that a basic right to education is being withheld while bars and restaurants continue to operate with far fewer safety measures in place to protect the vulnerable in our community. Children are at the lowest risk for Covid transmission and susceptibility, yet are being deprived of the most during this time.

There are certainly alternatives, and as a parent who is constantly in touch with other families as we all try to figure out how to navigate the school situation while trying to work, it is apparent that those with the financial means are all set hiring tutors for their children, or sending them to other paid daycare programs/fall camps that inexplicably are permitted to operate while they essentially offer the same thing a school would: a place for children to go together during the day with health safeguards in place - the only difference being that it costs money vs public school. We aren't all so fortunate. I consider myself lucky to have some of these paid options available to me, but I shudder to think of the families that don't. The gap will just get wider. ***This is directly harming our children in a tangible, measurable way.***

If we could look to the success of our Santa Barbara community's summer camp programs and daycares that have proven so far that we can safely educate and supervise our children while at the same time protecting our teachers and staff, why shouldn't we do our very best for our children?

I urge you to ***please*** push back on the Governor's order and stand up for our children's right to safely gather and learn.

Thank you,
Renée Castelo DePaco

Sent from my iPhone

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: tamela Thompson <the4ts1234@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 9:18 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Reopening of Salons

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 this may concern,

Hello my name is Tami Thompson, I am A native To Santa Maria. I love this town and how well it supports the community in a time of need. However I'm not feeling that love for myself and the fellow stylist and others in my industry.

I have worked as a stylist for 33 years. I've worked hard to build a full client list and a relationship with them. They feel I am essential and look forward to seeing me in a clean, sanitized salon. I help with their self esteem by keeping them looking their best.

Since closing I've seen them depressed as they contact me as to when I can get them in. It's also hard on myself as I contribute to my household bills, so it is very essential that I work to help pay the mortgage, utilities, car payments and put food on our table. I never thought at 55 my job would be on the line as a self employed hard working woman. It's not the best age or time to find a new career either. I love what I do! But as I watch some of my fellow friends and stylist suffer worse than myself because we have no income , it really hurts. I don't understand why we have to be closed when we are trained with 1600 hours of sanitation, we are licensed in it!!!!

You can walk into a restaurant where There is not one employee trained in sanitation yet they are touching and serving our food!! Same in any store , Target, Walmart , Albertsons are breeding grounds for germs. Not to mention the amount of people in at one time throughout the day without the measures we take.

I recently have been to several doctors offices and labs that do not sanitize the way we do in our salon!!! This makes no sense! Please pass this on to whomever might listen and be smart enough to realize salons are not causing the spread.

I work with 14 stylists, we saw 3500

Clients after reopening first time , not ONE contacted corona virus nor did we! So someone please show us the data that proves salons aren't safe . It's not safe to have unemployed, depressed , starving people either. It's killing us slowly. OPEN OUR SALONS LEGALLY!!!

So Santa Maria step up and speak up

To support the reopening of salons please!

Thank you for taking the time,

Tami Thompson

Sent from my iPhone

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: CORI HAYMAN <corihayman@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 9:11 AM
To: sbcob; sbcob
Cc: Supervisor Das Williams; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve; Brian Goebel
Subject: Public Comment for Board of Supervisors Meeting, August 18th, 2020; Item D-1; 20-00281 (COVID-19).
Attachments: Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors (v6).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 public comment submitted by Brian Goebel and myself in connection with the above-referenced matter. I would appreciate a confirmation reply of receipt.

Thank you,

Cori Hayman.

Public Comment, Board of Supervisors Meeting, August 18th, 2020; Item D-1, 20-00281; COVID-19

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

Please consider the following public comment, which encourages the Board of Supervisors to advocate for the use of reliable metrics by the State when deciding whether to add and remove counties from its “Monitoring List.”

The State’s COVID Case Metrics, Which Have Resulted in Our County Being Placed (and now Trapped) on the Monitoring List, Are Not Accurate Measures of Community Spread and Are Unattainable

Counties will remain on the monitoring list, and thus be prohibited from exercising local control over many public health decisions, if they have more than 100 positive test cases per 100,000 population over a two-week period or a positive test rate of more than 8%. Due to limited testing capacity, the State’s current protocol prioritizes symptomatic and high-risk patients. This protocol, by definition, is not a random sampling of the entire community and therefore does not accurately measure community spread. But, it does ensure a high positivity rate. Counties throughout California, including Santa Barbara, continue to report daily test results that exceed the 8% threshold.

The utility of the testing data is further undermined by the fact that it is no more timely than hospitalization data and the State makes no effort to account for many factors, such as prevalence, false positives, and false negatives, when reporting results. It should thus come as no surprise that despite alarmist media reporting over case counts and positivity rates through the month of July, daily net hospital admissions were *falling* the entire month, **reflecting a virus in decline**. Today, the State has frozen the monitoring list because it cannot accurately report case data notwithstanding that California’s confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations have **declined by 28%** in the past three weeks.

The State’s case-based criteria for county monitoring are not only useless for measuring community spread, but they are unachievable as well. As a result, the counties find themselves in the same position they were in when the State announced its initial attestation criteria in early May, which were unachievable

(e.g., no fatalities for 14 days). *The counties successfully challenged those criteria. They should challenge the State again.*

The current criteria require counties to perform significant testing looking for only positive cases. Not surprisingly, this methodology ensures a high positivity rate and case count. Our County regularly reports daily test results that exceed the 8% threshold. By contrast, Sansum Clinic's testing protocol for both symptomatic and pre-op patients with no symptoms *has yielded a 3-4%* positivity rate in recent weeks. (Magnoli, Giana "Noozhawk Asks: Does Limited Coronavirus Testing Cause a Higher Positivity Rate?" *Noozhawk.com*, Aug. 15, 2020). When counties find what they have been told to look for, the State traps them on the monitoring list because their case counts and/or their positivity rates are too high.

These "gotcha" metrics should be replaced with metrics based on hospitalization data, which are more accurate for measuring community spread and just as timely. If they cannot be replaced, then they must be revised. When the State developed its 100 cases per 100,000 criterion, it was reporting roughly 60,000 test results per day. Today, that number is often above 100,000. According to the State's own guidance, it expects case counts to rise as testing volume increases. As a result, the 100 limit needs to be revised upward to at least 167 to be consistent with the initial policy. In addition, the State changed its testing priorities in July to focus on the highest risk. The 8% positivity rate needs to be adjusted upward to reflect this change in the testing pool.

For all these reasons, we encourage the Board of Supervisors to advocate before the State to eliminate the testing metrics governing county monitoring or at least revise them to be attainable. Otherwise, it is difficult to see how Santa Barbara (and many other counties) will regain local control over public health decisions.

Thank you for your continuing leadership and consideration.

Brian Goebel and Cori Hayman.

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Scott Nickason <ScottNickason@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 10:11 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Reopen Salons

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 Board of Supervisors,

My name is Scott Nickason, my wife and I own Pink Blossom Salon in Santa Maria. I have reached out to you all and actually had the pleasure to speak with Steve Lavagnino personally. I'll be brief with a few points in why salons are safe and should be open. I'll first start with each time I have called Offices of supervisors, public health departments, state assemblymen, congressmen, and the California Governor's office no one, I repeat no one could confirm an actual Covid 19 case coming from a salon or barbershop. Our salon served over 3300 clients within the 6 weeks we were reopen and not one case of Covid 19!!! Salons and barbershops are not the problem in the transmission of Covid 19. A few points: 1) CDC released a report on the effectiveness of wearing a mask and the study's actually came from a salon in Missouri. Out of 139 clients that were exposed to a stylist that was positive for Covid not one client tested positive for Covid. 2) the safety protocols that our salon practices is above and beyond any other business, office, industry. From taking everyone's temperature before entering, sanitizing hands and phones, bagging personal items, questionnaires, sanitizing stations before client and after just to name a few. 3) stations are physically distanced to limit contact with others. 4) We are an essential business!!! Something nobody ever thinks about regarding hair stylists, nail techs, barbers, and estheticians as essential but they are in so many ways. They all have close contact (physically and personally) with their clients and are able to see and recognize things that can save that clients life. For example recognizing melanoma on clients scalp, back, or any other area of skin, noticing poor circulation in fingers and/or toes, noticing signs of dementia, and most recently recognizing signs of human sex trafficking. Cosmetologists and barbers also are the only source of personal hygiene for those clients that are physically unable to take care of their hair or nails, and only source of social interaction that allows a client to talk and socialize. There are so many other reasons why our industry should open with essential cosmetologists and barbers but the public comment portion of the meeting is only 15 minutes and I am sure there are others who would like their voices heard.

Thank you for listening

Scott Nickason

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Thank you for listening

Scott Nickason

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: kwh@havencapitalgroup.com <kwh@havencapitalgroupinc.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 9:47 AM
To: KSneddon@santabarbaraca.gov; EFriedman@santabarbaraca.gov;
OGutierrez@santabarbaraca.gov; mharmon@santabarbaraca.gov;
MJordan@santabarbaraca.gov; algutierrez@santabarbaraca.gov;
cmurillo@santabarbaraca.gov; Ansorg, Henning; Do-Reynoso, Van; Williams, Das; Hart,
Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve; Miyasato, Mona; sbcob;
assemblymember.limon@assembly.ca.gov
Subject: COVID-19 and School Campus Closures

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 Elected Officials,

I am writing in support of reopening school campuses in Santa Barbara County in August/September 2020. As many of you know, I am President of the largest female-owned investment management company in Santa Barbara County, Haven Capital Group, Inc. My family has resided in Santa Barbara County for over 20 years, and my company headquarters is in downtown Santa Barbara on State Street. I have also been invited to join SB PLAN (Santa Barbara Parent Leadership Action Network), which has over 500 members in support of getting kids back to school safely. I urge you to advocate on behalf of your constituent families in, at least, giving us the option to send our children to school in August/September 2020. The next opportunity to do so is the board of supervisors meeting tomorrow (Tuesday, August 18). At this point, we are subject to Governor Newsom's orders, which are based on a flawed case metrics requirement to get off the watch-list, as well as unfair treatment in relation to other businesses and activities allowed to operate with less safety requirements than those for schools. I have included several additional facts below supporting my position on this matter. Please feel free to call or email me with any questions, and I hope to see you all at tomorrow's board of supervisors meeting.

Facts Supporting Reopening School Campuses in Santa Barbara County:

- (1) Data doesn't support school closures. Hospitalizations for COVID-19 are plummeting.
- (2) Case rate metrics are not an accurate method for determining community transmission. In addition to highly publicized data inaccuracies, testing protocol is to test only those with symptoms, which, by definition, yields skewed results.
- (3) Children are at the least risk for COVID susceptibility, complications, and transmission. Yet, we are confining them to home computers for school while allowing bars, restaurants, tourism to flourish until 12:30 am with minimal safeguards other than masks and somewhat limited seating.
- (4) Day care at YMCA, Girls and Boys Clubs, and more are permitted to operate, many on school campuses, costing families thousands of dollars. These are no different from those schools which are prepared to open.
- (5) Those with the means, are spending thousands of dollars on tutors with pods of children at home, with no built-in or regulated COVID safety measures.
- (6) Many private and public schools have confirmed their preparedness to open campuses with CDC, state and local COVID-19 measures in place. It is not fair to deprive them from opening campuses while allowing the party-goers to continue with less safety measures.
- (7) It is uniformly agreed that children are suffering without in-person education; yet, our leaders, including you, are not advocating on their behalf nor are you advocating for public healthcare policy directed toward the protection of the vulnerable (nursing homes, elderly, diabetics, and others with underlying conditions).
- (8) The Attorney General has essentially doubled-down on denying our children's right to education by expressly stating in

court papers that education is not fundamental in California, thereby denying all children constitutional rights protected under both California and the United States. We elected you to uphold the Constitution. In the face of this education crisis, we ask that you exercise your obligations to protect your constituents by pushing back on the Governor's orders.

Sincerely,
Kristin Horton

Kristin W. Horton, CFA
President
Haven Capital Group, Inc.
735 State Street, Suite 622
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Office 805-963-9050 (voicemail)
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Mobile 805-896-4832

kwh@havencapitalgroup.com

www.havencapitalgroup.com

Haven Capital Group, Inc. is a member of FINRA.

Please call us if you do not receive a response to your email within two hours.

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Roberta Maestas <queenarlene3@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 12:51 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Salons reopening and safety

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.

Hi my name is Arlene and I have done hair for over 40 years 25 of those years here in Santa Maria. I personally have known most of my customers for over 20 years. There is a reason they have been so loyal to me it's because they trust me to do my best and keep them safe so much so that they recommend me to their friends and family members. They are like family and I do my best to keep them safe just like I do with my own Mother who is 78 I would not want to bring the virus to her or any of my clients. I go out of my way to do even more than what was asked. I have clients who see me weekly because of physical reasons which makes it difficult to do their own hair which is important to their hygiene and mental health. I know them so well I have at times had to contact their family's about concerns for their health. Daily I have clients calling me to get updates on the reopening they are very frustrated. They know that I am trained in safety and sanitation and they have witnessed for them selves how good of a job I do sanitizing for them.

They are also worried that this can end my career as a stylist which at this point is possible. Please come see our Salon and the faces of the stylist behind the chairs here our stories see what we do. Please open us soon. Thank You

Sent from my iPhone

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: julie davenport <juliedavenport@me.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 1:41 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Covid 19 and school closure

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.

Hello!

Thank you for your leadership and guidance during these most challenging times.

As a community member, parent and a concerned California citizen I felt compelled to reach out. Although not an expert, my career as an intensive care unit nurse has served me well in terms of understanding epidemiology and treatment of illness. More often than not, ICU triage has come into play during critical times placing undue stress on an overloaded hospital. Although the media has sensationalized this to the highest degree with the current pandemic, I understand the sensitivities at play. This is not a new scenario, but one that has played out time and time again.

I am also a mother to 3 daughters. It has been difficult to watch the sacrifices they have been forced to make through Covid-19. The social network that school provides is vital to an adolescent's mental well being. I read this morning a new study released reporting that 1 in 4 people aged 13-25 have contemplated suicide since the onset of the community shut down. We know of a father at our school who ended his life this past month. I have watched my daughter exhibit signs of depression as of late, of which she had never demonstrated signs of mental distress ever before in her 16 years. I have heard the term "hopeless" being thrown out more and more from friends and neighbors.

The fact remains that science does not support the closure of schools. The county further solidifies this with the approval of daycares. Much of Europe returned to school this past spring and then studied outcomes over the summer to see if spikes in hospitalizations/cases/deaths occurred. They did not see those spikes, the return to school in the fall was supported. Sweden has no higher mortality rate than the US even though they have remained open for the entirety of the pandemic. We have always accepted that children/young adults are not as susceptible to Covid death as older individuals. When the young have tested positive, often they exhibit little to no sign of illness. They are not taxing our health care system. It has also been supported by the CDC/WHO that those positive youth are unlikely to pass the virus, and if they do the recipient would have a similar course of illness if any.

It feels that our youth have become a political pawn with little to no regard to facts or science as a guide. How else can you explain that education is unessential but bars and liquor stores are? Much of our country is going back to school. Many friends and neighbors have left California for these states. Many schools have demonstrated their preparedness to go back to the classroom, spending tens of thousands of dollars, to just have the rug pulled out needlessly.

I was so proud of the efforts of our board of supervisors with the news of our beaches closing a few months ago.. I felt they had our backs and were ready to fight for our rights. My family and I have supported our

leaders by following directions. We wear our masks dutifully, we haven't traveled outside of our community, we limit our exposure as much as possible. But it is beginning to feel pointless. It feels "hopeless".

I hear about more and more schools that have bucked the system and opened in spite of governor's orders. Rather than full blown anarchy, let us be (once again) guided by science rather than politics, and support our youth. Let's look at the indicative columns of data, let's find perspective and consider the lasting outcomes that this creates. Please support our youth.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Julie Davenport