

# Ad Hoc Group of Concerned Placer County Citizens' Recommendations for Action during the COVID-19 Crisis

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has begun to affect the residents of Placer County placing their health in jeopardy and even leading to death in some patients; and

WHEREAS the current shelter-in-place orders issued in an attempt to interrupt the virus' principal method of transmission has resulted in many people being without work or other income pending the lifting of such orders; and

WHEREAS many Placer County residents face challenges in meeting their basic needs and those of their families and dependents including food insecurity, childcare, lack of access to basic hygiene, safe and reliable utilities and services, paying particular attention to essential service workers and healthcare workers who will need this support, in the best of situations, and are now facing an increasing lack of these services.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ad Hoc Group of Concerned Placer County Citizens calls on the Placer County Board of Supervisors, the city councils of the incorporated cities in Placer County, and all public utilities serving Placer County Residents to:

Become partners with state and federal representatives and identify opportunities to work with utilities, banks, telecommunications, and lenders to protect individuals against service interruptions and evictions due to non-payment from COVID-19 loss of income until the State of California has publicly stated the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided and Emergency Declaration lifted;

Immediately put forth Eviction Moratorium and Rent Freeze until the State of California has publicly stated the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided and Emergency Declaration lifted. Our strongest tool for keeping Placer County safe is for all of us to stay home, which will only be effective if everyone in our community has secure housing. Already, our Governor has issued an executive order (N-28-20) that authorizes local governments to halt evictions for renters and homeowners. This would also include the suspension of foreclosures, fees, and penalties for homeowners. We are asking for a temporary moratorium on evictions until the State of California has publicly stated the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided and Emergency Declaration lifted to ensure residential and small business tenants are able to shelter in place for the sake of public health;

Immediately begin to connect with medical and sanitation experts on how to provide a clean and safe environment to our unhoused neighbors. We must protect the health of everyone in the

county and ensure cleaning stations for the unhoused as well as an expansion of safe housing and shelters with proper social distancing that meets CDC guidelines. Governor Newsom has just signed an executive order (N-32-20) to eliminate the restriction of local jurisdictions to utilize funds from the Homeless Emergency Aids Program for cleaning stations, expansion of housing, and shelter services;

Reduce jail population in order to protect against the spread of the coronavirus through our County jail. Create a sophisticated plan around making sure those inside receive proper health treatment and much needed social and support services upon their release. Limiting arrests and fewer people in jails following CDC guidelines on social distancing measures;

Immediately suspend all fines, fees, and restitution collection attempts until the CDC has publicly stated the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided, including parking and traffic tickets;

Work with non-profits and school districts on a comprehensive plan around the distribution of essential basic needs and safety supplies to all Placer County citizens free of charge and publish information widely to the public. Prioritize the County grant program in the next 60 days for emergency services;

Work with all utility companies in Placer County including gas, propane, electric, water, sewer, trash, and internet providers to waive late-fees and avoid citizens being cut off from essential services due to nonpayment until the State of California has publicly stated the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided and Emergency Declaration lifted;

Immediately begin to create a plan to conduct future elections on a 100% vote-by-mail basis beginning with the November 2020 election.