

Greetings,

I typically do not write in for these meetings, but felt with these stressful times we are in it is imperative that our County leadership hear from members of the community that are being impacted by these public health orders.

First, in regards to the \$100,000 raise for Noemi Doohan, MD. Though her efforts to stay in her position longer rather than move to San Diego due to this crisis are appreciated, a \$100,000 raise seems very steep; especially since the impact of her order and the order of our leaders are creating extraordinary hardship on our local businesses and community members that have lost their jobs. How do we justify this type of raise when so many that are impacted are suffering? Just the fact that she gets to keep her paycheck seems fair and I would advocate to take that \$100K and use it to help our local business and community members survive this period. It is very upsetting when leadership decisions do not actually impact our leaders; yet they are imposed on community members. Leaders need to also live by their own decisions.

Second, though the initial shelter-in-place orders seemed appropriate at the time to help control the spread of the virus, the orders now are too extreme and the duration extension to May 15th for our County and community does not seem to align with the facts of how this virus has played out in our Community. The majority of citizens have done as asked and SIP, myself and my family included. This seems to be visible in that we have only had 4 positive cases. Elements of the SIP need to start to be relaxed. I am an advocate for continuing the SIP until 4/30; as is being advocated by the Federal Government. As of 5/1, we should begin the journey back to life and our liberties that are guaranteed us under the Constitution. It is deeply disturbing to me the government overreach coming to light in other States and communities and I do not want to see that happen here in Mendocino County. We cannot keep going with this level of SIP - it is going to destroy our local economy and is not justified with the level of infection that we have. A few thoughts:

- 1) Open all parks with SIP guidance in place for a specified time. Review at that time and then update depending on current data.
- 2) Open all businesses with SIP guidance in place for a specified time.
- 3) Do not require masks - make them optional for those at higher risk or those that simply want to wear one. Many of us do not appreciate having these types of items being required especially with Dr. Fauci and others are "on the fence" with exactly how effective they are in a general public setting.
- 4) Bring more testing to Mendocino County - especially the 5-minute test and the blood test to identify antibodies to see if you already have had it. Our low infection rate may be due to the fact that we are in close proximity to the Bay Area and many of us may already have had it.
- 5) Do not threaten enforcement with fines or jail time. You will get better cooperation from citizens if the approach is educational with the goal to bring us together.
- 6) Implement review times in weeks, rather than months.

One final thought - being American means Freedom. A certain level of risk comes with being free. Our response to illness cannot be to turn ourselves into a dictatorship. We have to have a better plan. Based on what I've seen from the very high projected numbers (even accounting for

SIP), the "downgrading" of that data and the actual data coming out now, I would not be as willing to cooperate again in the future. And I do not frame this in black and white choices of "do anything" to protect life or being told you are being selfish to think about people's livelihoods or money when we do not take that approach with other illnesses, accidents and death. We can have an approach that balances both.

My family does appreciate the frequent updates from Public Health and the Sheriff Department.

Thank you for your time,

Julie Boesel