

Monday, April 27, 2020

Members of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, CEO Angelo & Dr. Doohan,

Thank you for your ongoing leadership and support during the Covid-19 crisis. With its considerable dependence on tourism, the city of Fort Bragg anticipates a long, slow road to economic recovery. We are already seeing long established businesses make their shut downs permanent.

Germany and Austria are reopening non essential businesses smaller than 800 sq m. With the assertion that smaller spaces are easier to control, and thus easier to execute mandated safety measures, I think that this approach is worthy of consideration for Mendocino County. We have a high number of owner operated businesses with few to no employees, making controls all the more feasible and incentivized. Many of our small businesses are the most vulnerable and have been unsuccessful in securing Federal aid. I have found the business owners I've spoken with to be in favor of this approach, understanding of course, that it may still be too early to take this step.

The other key allowance I would request, is curbside pick-up for non essential businesses. It is my belief that allowing curbside pick-up would enable businesses to start adjusting to long term distancing by leveraging new tools and beginning to rebuild their cash flow.

Within your parameters for reopening, please consider allowing clothing and shoe stores to accept returns so long as the businesses do not resell product for 3 days (giving time for the virus to die). That will better enable them to sell product without customers trying it on.

Thank you again for all that you do.
Respectfully,

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