



Mendocino County

Legislation Text

File #: 20-0252, Version: 1

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Executive Office

Meeting Date: March 20, 2020

Department Contact: Carmel J. Angelo **Phone:** 4441

Department Contact: Noemi Doohan, MD, PhD, **Phone:** 4441
County Health Officer

Department Contact: Lt. Shannon Barney **Phone:** 4441

Item Type: Regular Agenda

Time Allocated for Item: 3 hrs

Agenda Title:

Discussion and Possible Action Including an Update Associated with the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), Including Possible Direction Regarding Essential Services in Mendocino County, Including Policies in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic and an Update on Temporary Closures and/or Reductions in County Facilities and/or Services

(Sponsor: Executive Office)

Recommended Action/Motion:

Receive update regarding COVID-19, discuss and/or provide direction regarding essential services in Mendocino County and temporary closures and/or reductions in County facilities and/or services, including the issues associated with protecting the health and safety of the public.

Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:

On March 10, 2020, the Board of Supervisors ratified the Local Emergency related to 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) as proclaimed by the Chief Executive Officer/Director of Emergency Services and ratified the Existence of a Local Health Emergency as Proclaimed by the Health Officer on March 4, 2020.

Summary of Request:

Mendocino County Public Health has been actively responding to the threat of COVID-19 since early January 2020. On March 4, 2020, Mendocino County declared a local health emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, there is no evidence of community spread in Mendocino County. However, due to the crisis level shortage of testing for this disease and given that nearby San Francisco Bay Area is experiencing outbreaks of COVID-19 with extensive community spread, we recognize the imminent threat presented to Mendocino County's public health due to COVID-19.

On March 18, 2020, Mendocino County Public Health confirmed the first case of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in Mendocino County. This individual is in stable condition and is being placed in isolation. The individual has a known exposure to a person with COVID-19.

Mendocino County Health Officer Dr. Noemi Doohan has issued a Health Order directing all county residents

to Shelter-In-Place, effective starting from March 18, 2020 at 10 p.m. until April 7, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. This difficult decision is being made because Mendocino County's first confirmed case of COVID-19 has been identified and the Bay Area is experiencing an alarming rise of COVID-19 cases - resulting in an imminent threat to our county's health. This Order closely follows the Bay Area and Sonoma County Shelter-In-Place orders.

This Order is to ensure that the maximum number of people shelter in their places of residence to the maximum extent possible, in order to slow the spread of COVID-19. The Order directs all residents to remain at their place of residence, except to conduct Essential Activities, Essential Businesses, and Essential Government Functions (defined in the Order).

This Health Order limits activity, travel and business functions to only the most basic and essential needs, and prohibits transient lodging for non-essential purposes. To the extent that individuals must use shared or outdoor spaces, all must maintain social distancing of at least six feet between themselves and others while outside their residence. Our goal is to protect the public's health by aggressively minimizing the spread of this pandemic.

Essential Activities (exemptions to the Shelter-In-Place Order) include:

- Tasks essential to maintain health and safety, such as obtaining medicine or seeing a doctor;
- Getting necessary services or supplies for themselves or their family or household members, such as getting food and supplies, pet food, and getting supplies necessary for staying at home;
- Engaging in outdoor activity, such as walking, hiking, or running provided that you maintain at least six feet of social distancing;
- Performing work providing essential services at an Essential Business or Essential Government function;
- Caring for a family member in another household;
- Caring for elderly, minors, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons.

As a result of the imminent threat presented to Mendocino County's public health due to COVID-19, the Board of Supervisors will receive an update as it pertains to the below listed topics, including discussion and/or provide direction related to essential services in Mendocino County and potential direction regarding temporary closure and/or reduction in County Facilities and/or Services:

- Health Officer Briefing
- Emergency Operations Center and Office of Emergency Services
- County's Business Community
- Law Enforcement
- Mendocino County Schools
- Homeless and Seniors
- Essential County Services
 - Travel
 - Vacation
 - Leave time/Benefit Accruals
 - Departmental Staffing Resources
- Reduction in all non-essential spending
- County Policy waivers to expedite the County's COVID-19 response

Alternative Action/Motion:

No action.

Supervisory District: All

vote requirement: Majority

Supplemental Information Available Online At:

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/community/novel-coronavirus>

Fiscal Details:

source of funding: N/A

current f/y cost: N/A

annual recurring cost: N/A

budgeted in current f/y: N/A

if no, please describe: N/A

revenue agreement: N/A

budget clarification: N/A

Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel: N/A

CEO Liaison: Executive Office

CEO Review: Yes

CEO Comments:

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Executed By: Lindsey Dunham, Deputy Clerk of the Board

Final Status: Direction to Staff

Date: March 21, 2020

