May 8, 2020

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada 950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Nevada County Reopening

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter,

I am writing this letter out of concern for how our County Government is addressing the public safety health directives associated with Covid 19. It is my belief that we, as a County, should be addressing this in a localized way, taking into account our demographics, population densities and statistical analysis. We should not be enforcing blanket directives that are planned and designed for metro counties that have much different risks they are managing. Our County's economy will be much more sensitive to prolonged disruption, without the large corporate backstops urban Counties have. We need to be taking a leadership role in dealing with this issue, much like Placer and many other rural Counties are. The majority of those I have spoken with on the subject are beginning to question the management abilities of those that are charting our path.

Sincerely,

David Petty

From:

David Petty

Sent:

Friday, May 8, 2020 2:57 PM

To:

BOS Public Comment

Subject:

Covid 19 Response Letter

Attachments:

CovidLetter.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Julie,

Please enter the attached letter as public comment for the upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting. Thank you.

David Petty

C & D Contractors, Inc.

From:

Georgann Russell <

Sent:

Friday, May 8, 2020 1:53 PM

To:

BOS Public Comment; CEO; Heidi Hall; Dan Miller

Subject:

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR Board of Supervisors (Nevada County) MAY 12, 2020 RE-

OPENING NEVADA COUNTY

Attachments:

2020 GR letter with attachments to Board of Supervisor 5.12.20 meeting.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter, Supervisor Heidi Hunt, Supervisor Dan Miller, CEO Allison Lehman:

I am one an individual who has been carefully watching, listening and researching the Coronavirus epidemic. I am 73 years old, a resident of Nevada City since 1985 and considered to be in the "high risk" category. I also am a business owner and a landlord.

Beginning March 15th, I started charting cases & deaths on a spreadsheet.

World and countries: USA, ITALY, SPAIN, CHINA

US States: New York, New Jersey, Michigan, California, Louisiana, Florida

I saw the rapid increase of cases and deaths and was very alarmed. I realize Federal and State government officials did the best they could with the information available and presented to them as a pandemic. I realize they had to be pro-active and take drastic measures because no one really knew what we were dealing with.

When the restrictions and shelter in place rules came out, I, like other good citizens complied because that's what we do. We look out for our families, neighbors, and the community at large.

I was encouraged to hear from Dr. Fauci, Dr. Birx, and other federal public health directors that the urgent need was to stay at home so we could flatten the curve and not overwhelm our hospital systems; which made perfect sense to any rational individual. This we did. We understood there would be economic impacts, the severity of which we could not foresee.

We also were told that States and Counties would be charted and evaluated for the incidences of the virus, (cases and deaths recorded) and that data would influence the timing of re-opening businesses and lifting stay at home restrictions.

Comparing Nevada County cases and deaths and the total flattening of the curve indicates we were able to have a better than expected outcome. And with new testing of antibodies in some large urban areas, it has become quite clear that hundreds of thousands of people had the virus, didn't know they had it, and recovered well. Even

comparing California to New York and New Jersey, with our large population, California fared well.

It now seems that Nevada County has not taken the initiative to respond to the Governor's May 4th announcement:

Regional Variation The Governor also announced 5/4/2020 that while the state is moving into Stage 2 together, counties can move more quickly through Stage 2, if they attest that they meet the state's readiness criteria. Counties must create and submit a readiness plan which the state will make publicly available.

Where is Nevada County's Readiness Plan?

Why isn't the limited number of cases in Nevada County (most especially Western Nevada County) being taken into consideration?

Why do we still have restrictions on our mobility, inability to operate our businesses, and stay at home orders?

How long do we have to wait?

The attached letter conveys the feelings of myself and many other citizens of this community. The Board of Supervisors needs to represent the citizens of this County, not wait for the Governor of this large and diverse state, who is in charge of the entire state, with all the counties that have varying degrees of the presence of the Coronavirus.

I would appreciate it if this email and the attached letter is submitted and read at the Board of Supervisors meeting scheduled for next Tuesday May 12th.

We deserve to be better informed as to the reason for actions or absence of actions being taken by the Board of Supervisors which is having such an enormous impact on our day to day life and the emotional and financial repercussions we are all experiencing.

Thank you.



May 8, 2020 LETTER VIA EMAIL ATTACHMENT

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada <u>BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us</u> 950 Maidu Ave, Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: NEVADA COUNTY STAY-AT-HOME ORDER STAGE 2 REOPENING 5/12/20 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING / FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter, Supervisor Heidi Hunt, Supervisor Dan Miller, Allison Lehman:

I am a property owner residing in Nevada City and Landlord of two homes in Morgan Ranch.

As residents, neighbors, and business owners in Nevada County, we care deeply about our communities. On March 19th, Governor Newsom issued his shelter-in-place order, closing non-essential businesses and prohibiting all non-essential travel. We knew that it was the right thing to do, to protect our community, business, and the traveling public. We commend the Governor for making this difficult decision and taking early action in the fight against COVID-19 and support the County of Nevada, issuing Stay-at-Home guidelines to keep us safe.

Nevada County is where I choose to live. There is no other place like it. Our rich heritage, diverse culture, and quality of life make it the best place imaginable to grow a family and grow a business. The people are what make this community strong. We've weathered catastrophes like the 49er Fire, economic recessions, and PSPS outages, events that have interrupted our lives and livelihoods, but we've faced them together, and come out the other side more resilient for having survived.

We're heartened that the data on the Nevada County COVID 19 Dashboard is a clear indication that our community has been successful in following the State and Nevada County Stay-at-Home guidelines and that those afflicted with COVID 19 have recovered. Our curve is flattened, with no new cases reported.

Daily, we wait for news from our Supervisors that measures have been taken to follow the examples of neighboring counties whose COVID 19 data mirrors our own. The Supervisors of those counties have written letters to the Governor and reopened their counties with precautions in place. We in Nevada County are compelled to remain sequestered and non-essential businesses are mandated to remain closed. It is difficult to watch our friends and neighbors go down the hill to neighboring counties to purchase goods and services while many of us are on the brink of financial collapse. Dollars spent outside of Nevada County; dollars that would help us recover economically were we open.

In addition, many of those forced into confinement suffer health and mental health issues.

It is our feeling that you, as our elected officials have chosen to not stand up for us. If you do not help us reopen, many small businesses in Nevada County will perish. We ask the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to stand with the constituency of the County. To support our right as citizens to open our doors, our right as business owners to serve our community, and to restore our livelihoods.

We respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors write a resolution asking California's Governor to terminate the current state of emergency declaration, give local control back to the County of Nevada and reopen our businesses.

Sincerely

Georgann Russell, Homeowner District 1

Georgann Russell, Landlord, District 3

VIA EMAIL:

Heidi Hall, District 1 <u>heidi.hall@co.nevada.ca.us</u>

Dan Miller, District 3 <u>dan.miller@co.nevada.ca.us</u>

Alison Lehman, CEO <u>ceo@co.nevada.ca.us</u>

COUNTY OF NEVADA

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Heidi Hall, 1st District (Chair) Ed Scofield, 2nd District Dan Miller, 3rd District (Vice-Chair) Susan Hoek, 4th District Richard Anderson, 5th District

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board Alison Lehman, County Executive Officer Katharine L. Elliott, County Counsel



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, CA 95959-8617 (530) 265-1480 Fax: (530) 265-9836 bdofsupervisors@co.nevada.ca.us

AGENDA

Date

Time

Location

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

9:00 AM

Board Chambers, First Floor Eric Rood Administrative Center 950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, California

The Board of Supervisors welcomes you to their regularly scheduled meeting.

Pursuant to Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order pertaining to the convening of public meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the County of Nevada will hold its regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors by remote. The Board of Supervisors will attend the meeting and participate to the same extent as if they were present.

This meeting is broadcast live on Nevada County Media Channel 17 in the Western County and on Suddenlink Channel 78 in the Eastern County, and can be viewed live through the web at https://nevco.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx.

Members of the public who are unable to view the meeting on television or through the web may call (408) 418-9388 to listen to the meeting live.

You will be prompted to provide the Meeting ID#: 620 061 633 and the Password#: 34746546.

Closed Captioning is available for hearing impaired viewers.

TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON A MATTER ON THE AGENDA OR TO PROVIDE GENERAL COMMENTS: Clerk of the Board staff remains dedicated to finding new and innovative methods to suit our County's civic engagement needs during this challenging time. Members of the public can provide comments on a particular agenda item, or general comments on items that are of interest to the public and are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, before the meeting by:

- 1) Writing a letter to the Board of Supervisors;
- 2) Calling (530) 264-0554 and leaving a voice mail message;
- 3) Emailing BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us; or
- 4) Leaving an eComment at https://www.mynevadacounty.com/822/Meeting-Information-Video-Streaming.

Please provide your name, District of residence, and the agenda item number that you wish to comment on.

May 10, 2020

To: Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

And the Supervisors of Nevada Couty

From: Robert Hren, District 1

Topic: COVID19

Dear Supervisors,

This is a difficult time for all of our citizens, and this is also a difficult time to be a local elected official. On one hand, state-wide quarantine decrees make your job easy—just comply with the Governor's orders.

But that is not fulfilling your obligations to your constituents. In the case of Nevada County and many other rural counties that have had a low infection rate, the state-wide decrees have now proven to be unnecessary and will result in devastation not only to the local economy but also to the physical and mental health of our citizens for years to come.

Sorting through the best path forward requires first a review of how we got here.

When the COVID19 virus was recognized as a threat, computer models developed in the UK (the Ferguson/Imperial College Model—now recognized as woefully inaccurate if not bogus) forecast the death of 2.2 million people in the US, with similar numbers for Europe. This, together with the void of information on the virus, resulted in adoption of universal stay-athome orders for all persons, whether sick or healthy so that our medical facilities would not be overwhelmed.

Think of that—never in past quarantines have entire countries or continental populations been locked down. Quarantines have normally been applied to those found to be sick and to their immediate families, not to the entire population of healthy citizens. In all cases, only to the minimum extent necessary to avoid a crisis. This has been an unprecedented impairment of our rights of assembly, free association, due process and other rights that are protected under the Constitutions of the USA and California.

It could be argued that taking such draconian action resulted in curtailing the impact of the virus. However, there are other countries, notably Sweden, that took a different approach. They encouraged masks and social distancing but did not shut down the entire country. They did not decide which businesses were "essential" and which were "non-essential." The COVID19 results in Sweden are about the same as for other major European countries. And, they have not destroyed their economy. Nor have they restricted normal medical treatments and procedures, both physical and mental. And, they are much closer to "herd immunity" as a result.

Under the stresses of lock-down, there has been a significant rise in domestic abuse, mental illness, serious "non-essential" medical conditions have gone untreated and an impairment of the natural development of the population's immune system has occurred. These secondary impacts will be haunting our county for years to come.

Because of China's "hiding the ball" about the virus and treatment methods, when our country was shut down our health care professionals had little knowledge on treatment methods. Now much more experience and knowledge is available to guide treatment. Fortunately, none of our hospitals in the US have been overwhelmed, and cases are receding.

In Nevada County, the story is even better. Of 41 cases, 40 have been resolved, with one death. Not only has the curve been flattened, it has been demolished. There has not been a new case of COVID19 in our county for over three weeks.

Other scientific studies and testing have shown that there have been far more people exposed to the virus than previously known. Most had a mild or unnoticed reaction to the virus. Immunologists are urging that healthy people be allowed to circulate more feely while exercising prudent social distancing (unless they show signs of the disease or have weakened immune systems). This will allow those of us who are healthy, with robust immune systems, to develop antibodies and lead to the important herd immunity. And, this will allow our economy to recover from this unprecedented artificial and devastating impact caused by the universal lock-down.

Our Governor has said not until a vaccine is developed can we return to normal. Some claims have been made that a vaccine can be developed in 12 to 18 months or even by the end of this year. That would be unprecedented and is not supported by the experience of developing other vaccines. It could take 2-3-10 or more years to develop a safe vaccine for this unique virus, if it can even be successfully developed at all. Refer to this article for more on this topic: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2020/04/why-coronavirus-vaccine-could-take-way-longer-than-a-year/#close

So, waiting for a vaccine will devastate our economy, our path towards herd immunity, will risk losing even more people to other physical and mental diseases than COVID19 and is a high risk path that our county does not need.

This is the time for you, our local elected leaders, to step up to the plate and take control of our county before we slip into a non-recoverable condition.

Sincerely,

Robert Hren

but Hrem

From:

Bob Hren

Sent:

Sunday, May 10, 2020 9:16 PM

To:

BOS Public Comment

Subject:

Letter for 5-12-20 BOS Meeting

Attachments:

HREN letter to BOS 5-10-20.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Julie Patterson Hunter,

I am attaching a public comment letter for the 5-12-20 BOS meeting on the topic of COVID19.

The letter states, and I am confirming, that I am a resident of District 1.

Please include this letter in the public comments section for the Supervisors.

If you have any questions, please let me know by return email. Or my cell phone: Robert Hren



(Chairman of the Nevada County Republican Party. This is my personal letter. A separate note from the NCRP may be submitted later on Monday.)

From: Robin Trembath

Sent: Saturday, May 9, 2020 6:32 PM

To: BOS Public Comment

Subject: Public Comment: Reopening Nevada County for Business

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Supervisors: I request that this email be read along with any other public comments at your upcoming board meeting during the subject of reopening the county:

By all appearances, Nevada County currently plants to open back up at the pace that Gov. Newsom has prescribed for the entire state. Gov. Newsom is understandably concerned about Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area opening up too quickly. Those counties collectively have millions of residents living in high density. Since we are a rural area with a small, sparsely-spread population, having had so few confirmed Covid-19 cases, I urge you to take action, as our neighboring county of Place County, has done: Please request the state's permission for Nevada County to lay out and implement its own plans for reopening. Please do not put our rural county in the category of the urban areas of this massive state.

Our local businesses will likely go out of business one by one if you prolong the time where they are allowed to only sell via curbside delivery. As an example: I volunteer for Hospice Gift and Thrift stores. It is hard to imagine how they will be able to reopen their shops under the curbside model, due to the nature of their inventory. The Hospice Gift and Thrift Stores are vital to our community, especially now that so many people have been losing income for months and will continue to lose income as the state slowly builds back up. There are many other similarly situated shops in the area that thrive on tourism and browser-shopping that will not be able to reopen if they are limited to curbside deliveries. Additionally, dining in a restaurant where the waiter is wearing a mask is not an appealing dining-out experience.

In case you are considering following the steps of bigger counties and mandating that all persons wear face masks in public, please don't do that. It's bad enough to have to endure going to the grocery store in a face mask. If I am required to shop in a boutique or go to a hair salon with a face mask on, or dine in a place where the waiter/waitress is miserably muffled by a mask, I am likely to just not partake of those services in this county. Given the statistics, and especially given that we have no active cases here (or even if we had 50 active), I believe it is overkill to require everyone to wear a mask in public. It makes it hard to breathe, and it fogs eye-glasses. More importantly, we all need to be able to see each other smiling, especially now.

I understand that many people, particularly those over 65 and/or those with vulnerable medical conditions, may be worried that if they go out into a public business they may become infected. On the other hand, there are many healthy people who can trust themselves not touch their face, and prefer to get as closely back to normal life as possible, anticipating that if they get the virus, they, like the *vast* majority of the people that get it, will recover. Both groups are critical to the life of our local businesses.

I hope you will consider the following, which will accommodate both groups: *Give the business owners and residents the latitude and freedom to conduct themselves as they choose, while still respecting the needs/concerns of others.* Specifically:

Allow businesses to opt to follow either of these three models:

- 1. Full blown Covid-19 protection during all business hours, limiting the number of patrons at any given time, all staff wearing face masks and requesting all customers to wear them, sanitizing, etc. **OR**
- 2. A split approach: (1) Full blown Covid –19 protection for certain hours of the day as clearly posted on the business entrance, followed by (2) no Covid protections during other hours of the day, again clearly posted on the entrance to the premises. This means no masks, no sanitizer requirements, and no limits on numbers of customers. Just count on people behaving responsibly. Sanitize customer counters between these two types of sessions. The businesses, including restaurants, could split their day into two parts, closing shop between those sessions to ensure that all those who want the protection have the opportunity to exit before the "business as usual" time is opened.
- 3. No Covid-19 protections. These businesses would need to clearly post this on the entrance, if there are any that choose to go this route.

Please respect the good sense and intelligence of the people of this county enough to let them make their own choices. As Placer County Supervisor Kirk Uhler stated on the radio yesterday, "We believe that adults, when given the proper information, will act responsibly."

Don't you believe that, too? Or do you believe we are somehow different in this county?

Thank you for your consideration,

Robin Trembath
Nevada City, District 1



Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada 950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, CA 95959

05/08/2020

RE: Nevada County Stay-at-Home Order Stage 2 Reopening

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter,

As residents, neighbors, and business owners in Nevada County, we care deeply about our communities. On March 19th, Governor Newsom issued his shelter-in-place order, closing non-essential businesses and prohibiting all non-essential travel. We knew that it was the right thing to do, to protect our community, business, and the traveling public. We commend the Governor for making this difficult decision and taking early action in the fight against COVID-19 and support the County of Nevada, issuing Stay-at-Home guidelines to keep us safe.

The data on the Nevada County COVID 19 Dashboard is a clear indication that our community has been successful in following the State and Nevada County Stay-at-Home guidelines and that those afflicted with COVID 19 have recovered. Our curve is flattened, with no new cases reported in more than two weeks.

Daily, we wait for news from our Supervisors that measures have been taken to follow the examples of neighboring counties whose COVID 19 data mirrors our own. The Supervisors of those counties have written letters to the Governor and reopened their counties with precautions in place. We in Nevada County are compelled to remain sequestered and non-essential businesses are mandated to remain closed.

It is our feeling that you, as our elected officials have chosen to not stand up for us. If you do not help us reopen, many small businesses in Nevada County will perish. We ask the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to stand with the constituency of the County. To support our right as citizens to open our doors, our right as business owners to serve our community, and to restore our livelihoods.

Many friends and neighbors throughout Nevada are preparing to open out of necessity to feed their families and employees. We do not want to be at odds with each other, but that will be the case if they do not step up top put an immediate end to the financial hardship and suffering going on all around us.

I respectfully request that you allow all Stage 2 businesses to reopen with guidelines as quickly as possible. Nevada County meets all the criteria that the State has outlined for reopening.

Sincerely,

Charles Faber President

From:

Trish Adams

Sent:

Friday, May 8, 2020 4:24 PM

To:

BOS Public Comment

Subject:

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Attachments:

CCF05082020_0002.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please see attached letter for the upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting.

Thank You Charles Faber C & D Contractors, Inc. May 8, 2020

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada

950 Maidu Avenue

Nevada City, CA 95959

Re: Nevada County Stay At Home Orders

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter,

As a resident of Nevada County, I care deeply about my community. While the Covid-19 pandemic started as a frightening event based upon what we were seeing happening in Europe and in New York, the bigger pandemic today is the loss of our freedom and our community's economic viability.

I am heartened that the data in Nevada County is indicating that out of a population of over 97,000, we have identified just over 40 documented cases of the virus. This is a clear indication that our community has been successful in following the State and Nevada County guidelines responsibly and those afflicted with this infection have recovered. Our curve is flattened, with no new cases reported.

In the meantime, our hospitals and medical facilities are underutilized and very likely hemorrhaging financially, our local shops, restaurants and non-profits are suffering, some closing permanently as a result of this shutdown. We are compelled to remain sequestered, unable to visit family, attend church services, or in some cases even obtain "elective" medical or dental services, which is greatly effecting the physical quality of life and health for many people.

We are watching friends and neighbors go down the hill to neighboring counties to purchase goods and services, knowing that those tax dollars could be spent here in Nevada County, helping the County recover economically. We are responsible and resourceful people, who care about our own health and that of those around us. We can resume some "normal" activities, while taking every precaution to assure the safety of those with whom we come in contact. If our elected officials continue to delay the reopening of our County, small businesses and many non-profits will perish. I ask the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to stand with the citizens of this County and to support our rights as citizens to live freely, to operate our businesses, and to serve our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry McLaughlin

Dist 2

From:

Peter Perkins-Flop House Creations

Sent:

Friday, May 8, 2020 9:11 AM

To:

BOS Public Comment

Subject:

Reopening the County

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

May 8, 2020

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada 950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Nevada County Stay-at-Home Order Stage 2 Reopening

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter,

As residents, neighbors, and business owners in Nevada County, we care deeply about our communities. On March 19th, Governor Newsom issued his shelter-in-place order, closing non-essential businesses and prohibiting all non-essential travel. We knew that it was the right thing to do, to protect our community, business, and the traveling public. We commend the Governor for making this difficult decision and taking early action in the fight against COVID-19 and support the County of Nevada, issuing Stay-at-Home guidelines to keep us safe.

Nevada County is where I choose to live. There is no other place like it. Our rich heritage, diverse culture, and quality of life make it the best place imaginable to grow a family and grow a business. The people are what make this community strong. We've weathered catastrophes like the 49er Fire, economic recessions, and PSPS outages, events that have interrupted our lives and livelihoods, but we've faced them together, and come out the other side more resilient for having survived.

We're heartened that the data on the Nevada County COVID 19 Dashboard is a clear indication that our community has been successful in following the State and Nevada County Stay-at-Home guidelines and that those afflicted with COVID 19 have recovered. Our curve is flattened, with no new cases reported.

Daily, we wait for news from our Supervisors that measures have been taken to follow the examples of neighboring counties whose COVID 19 data mirrors our own. The Supervisors of those counties have written letters to the Governor and reopened their counties with precautions in place. We in Nevada County are compelled to remain sequestered and non-essential businesses are mandated to remain closed. It is difficult to watch our friends and neighbors go down the hill to neighboring counties to purchase goods and services while many of us are on the brink of financial collapse. Dollars spent outside of Nevada County; dollars that would help us recover economically were we open.

In addition, many of those forced into confinement suffer health and mental health issues.

It is our feeling that you, as our elected officials have chosen to not stand up for us. If you do not help us reopen, many small businesses in Nevada County will perish. We ask the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to stand with the constituency of the County. To support our right as citizens to open our doors, our right as business owners to serve our community, and to restore our livelihoods.

We respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors write a resolution asking California's Governor to terminate the current state of emergency declaration, give local control back to the County of Nevada and reopen our businesses.

Sincerely,

Peter Perkins, Grass Valley

Peter Perkins Flop House Creations

Dist 1

From:

Catherine Ione

Sent:

Friday, May 8, 2020 9:29 AM

To:

BOS Public Comment

Subject:

Reopening Nevada County

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

May 8, 2020

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada 950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Nevada County Stay-at-Home Order Stage 2 Reopening

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter,

As residents, neighbors, and business owners in Nevada County, we care deeply about our communities. On March 19th, Governor Newsom issued his shelter-in-place order, closing non-essential businesses and prohibiting all non-essential travel. We knew that it was the right thing to do, to protect our community, business, and the traveling public. We commend the Governor for making this difficult decision and taking early action in the fight against COVID-19 and support the County of Nevada, issuing Stay-at-Home guidelines to keep us safe.

Nevada County is where I choose to live. There is no other place like it. Our rich heritage, diverse culture, and quality of life make it the best place imaginable to grow a family and grow a business. The people are what make this community strong. We've weathered catastrophes like the 49er Fire, economic recessions, and PSPS outages, events that have interrupted our lives and livelihoods, but we've faced them together, and come out the other side more resilient for having survived.

We're heartened that the data on the Nevada County COVID 19 Dashboard is a clear indication that our community has been successful in following the State and Nevada County Stay-at-Home guidelines and that those afflicted with COVID 19 have recovered. Our curve is flattened, with no new cases reported.

Daily, we wait for news from our Supervisors that measures have been taken to follow the examples of neighboring counties whose COVID 19 data mirrors our own. The Supervisors of those counties have written letters to the Governor and reopened their counties with precautions in place. We in Nevada County are compelled to remain sequestered and non-essential businesses are mandated to remain closed. It is difficult to watch our friends and neighbors go down the hill to neighboring counties to purchase goods and services while many of us are on the brink of financial collapse. Dollars spent outside of Nevada County; dollars that would help us recover economically were we open.

In addition, many of those forced into confinement suffer health and mental health issues.

It is our feeling that you, as our elected officials have chosen to not stand up for us. If you do not help us reopen, many small businesses in Nevada County will perish. We ask the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to stand with the

constituency of the County. To support our right as citizens to open our doors, our right as business owners to serve our community, and to restore our livelihoods.

We respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors write a resolution asking California's Governor to terminate the current state of emergency declaration, give local control back to the County of Nevada and reopen our businesses.

Sincerely,

Catherine Ione-Perkins, Grass Valley

Catherine Ione-Perkins



"We must dream the world we wish to see, not in reaction to anything. To do this will require great courage to trust in ourselves, our fellow humans who dare do the same, in life, in the universe, and the Great Spirit that Lives in All Things."

"I love you! "

From:

John Quaglia

Sent:

Monday, May 11, 2020 6:55 AM

To:

BOS Public Comment

Subject:

Concerns

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello, My name is John Moss Quaglia, I live at 16994 Blue Sky Circle.

I am concerned about the number of people flocking to our area to use parks and river areas that are closed. This poses a major health risk to residents of Nevada County. and limits the residents of our county to enjoy using these places for our own peace of mind.

Why do I have to stay in my house to protect me and my family from people who don't live here and aren't part of the statistic that shows a low infection rate in our county. As soon as we open up to visitors we run the risk of higher infections. I am confused with the stay at home order, since Nevada County is relaxing it's regulations and "opening" to a certain degree, does that mean we are "open" to visitors from outside the county?

The number of people I saw here this weekend was just over the top. People were parking in areas that were obviously posted with no parking signs, it was just blatant defiance of our local regulations, the state park probably generated thousands in parking tickets, these rangers need to do more than just give tickets, they need to protect the residents of Nevada County by turning people away who don't live here. What's the use of sheltering in place if you are at risk of contact with visitors from outside the community, potentially from high risk environments, when local Nevada County residents need these places for some much needed peace of mind during this time.

Are we opening up for all of California or just the residents of Nevada County?

Thank You for your efforts through this very difficult time! Sincerely,
John Moss Quaglia

From:

Joann Rebane

Sent:

Sunday, May 10, 2020 5:45 PM

To:

Alison Lehman; Dan Miller; Ed Scofield; Heidi Hall; Sue Hoek; Ryan Gruver; BOS Public

Comment

Cc:

Jo Ann Rebane

Subject:

Open Up Nevada County

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: Board of Supervisors, County Executive, Health and Human Services Department:

From: Jo Ann Rebane

Date: 10 May 2020

Re: Open Up Nevada County

It is disappointing to note that Nevada County has surrendered to Sacramento's Stages, Phases and Timelines. This county should be leading the way, joining other rural counties which are opening up fast and not dragging its feet.

Whether Nevada County continues to follow top-down Orders and "dictates" or loosens up – there will be new cases of Covid-19 and even deaths. However, Sacramento should not dictate Nevada County's economic demise. It is time to stop the tail spin you created and endorsed. Failing to loosen up the local economy will without a doubt kill the life blood of our small businesses and towns.

Already you have put between 29% and 35% of the local workforce into poverty and despair by shutting down our restaurants, stores, and businesses which used to employ them. You know that drug overdoses are occurring and other mental health problems are going untreated. And how many businesses are on the brink of closing forever?

Allowing curb-side pickup from certain stores is a joke. Costco, Target, and K-Mart are open. Costco sells high-end jewelry and shoppers can try it on and walk out with a purchase. Why can't Stucki Jewelers, Utopian Stone, or La Cache allow a shopper in to do the same? Target sells clothes and shoppers can try on outfits and walk out with a purchase. Why can't Penneys' or Abstract's customer do the same? K-Mart sells shoes. Why can't Empire Shoes do it? Rite-Aid sells fancy soaps and lotions. Why can't Yuba Blues' customers choose soaps and lotions from their shelves? Hills Flat sells patio furniture, why can't Sierra Timberline allow customers in the store?

If Safeway is able to keep its employees and customers safe and separated, surely our local merchants and business people have the ingenuity and will follow suit. Please give them a chance to save this community.

It is time to clearly state Nevada County is open for business.

Jo Ann Rebane

Nevada City, CA

May 8, 2020

TO: Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board, County of Nevada

Nevada County Board of Supervisors: Heidi Hall, Ed Scofield, Dan Miller, Sue Hoek, Richard Anderson

From: Cynthia Hren, District 1

RE: Covid-19, Nevada County Re-opening

Dear Ms. Paterson Hunter and District Supervisors:

As a homeowner, taxpayer and resident of Nevada County for 21 years, I care deeply about our beautiful community. This is where I choose to live because of our rich history, diverse culture, and quality of life that make it unique and the best place to enjoy life.

On March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a shelter in place order closing non-essential businesses and prohibiting all non-essential travel to keep CA residents safe from contacting the virulent Covid-19. Nevada County has been diligent and supportive in following this order that is shown by the success in flattening the curve and the few who have been affected by Covid-19 have recovered.

Since there was little data available in mid-March, it was prudent to follow the mandated state orders. Now that we have reliable local data, it shows that as of today, there are zero current cases of Covid-19 and no new cases reported in the past three weeks in Nevada County. (https://yubanet.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/nc0505.jpg). In addition, other new data confirms that staying indoors reduces one's immune response and the ability of the healthy members of our society to develop immunity, which will prevent development of a powerfully effective herd immunity. Additionally, deferred medical attention to important health and psychological issues of our population will result in serious negative secondary impacts in the months to follow.

Many local businesses are on the verge of financial collapse while Nevada County citizens drive down the hill to neighboring counties to purchase goods and services. The revenue if spent locally would help Nevada County recover our economy and support our business community. We cannot sustain this shut down much longer as these businesses may fail and never re-open, which would be devastating to our community. We are a large and diverse state, not a one-size-fits-all state and our county cannot be compared to Los Angeles or the bay area.

Other rural counties have begun the process to re-open their businesses, with precautions in place. Some counties, such as Placer, have asserted that local county control is paramount and proper vs state control. I implore the NC Board of Supervisors to stand with the constituency of our county and draft a well-defined plan to reopen and restore the livelihoods of our citizens, with reasonable safeguards, as soon as possible. Our county's economic future depends on it.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Hren District 1

From:

Cynthia Hren

Sent:

Sunday, May 10, 2020 10:49 PM

To:

BOS Public Comment

Subject:

Covid-19, Re-Opening Nevada County

Attachments:

NC Board of Supervisors bh (3).docx

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter and Supervisors:

I have attached a letter regarding the prompt re-opening of our county to avoid severe financial and other implications. I know you are receiving many letters, but I hope you will read and consider this request at your next Board meeting.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Cynthia Hren, District 1



Winding Road Imagery



felt moved to do so and their team is not sure how they will recover.

In the past week, I have received now dozens of phone calls, emails, text messages from fellow business owners who are struggling and local restaurants that will NOT be able reopen. Some of these restaurants have not made it known and you may be shocked (or not) by those what will not be able to reopen their doors. Our town is going to become a ghost town if we do not work towards a FULL reopening vs. just a Phase 2 opening.

In addition, many of those forced into confinement suffer health and mental health issues. Those now suffering with suicide idealization is real and I would hate to see Nevada County regain the #1 ranking for the highest suicides per capita in the state of California when we've worked so hard to bring health services and support to our community since 2006.

It is our feeling that you, as our elected officials have chosen to not stand up for us. If you do not help us reopen, many small businesses in Nevada County will perish. We ask the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to stand with the constituency of the County. To support our right as citizens to open our doors, our right as business owners to serve our community, and to restore our livelihoods.

Our friends and neighbors throughout Nevada County are preparing to open out of necessity to feed their families and employees. We do not want to be at odds with each other, but that will be the case if our county does not step up to the top put an immediate end to the financial hardship and suffering going on all around us.

The suffering is hard to see and feel if you are receiving a regular paycheck. Most of our friends and neighbors are not receiving a regular paycheck and are taking steps to secure their safety as all freedom loving Americans have the right to do. Please help us help ourselves.

We respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors write a resolution asking California's Governor to terminate the current state of emergency declaration, give local complete control back to the County of Nevada as Placer County has done and reopen our businesses fully.

Sincerely,

Joy D. Porter

Dist4

Julie Patterson-Hunter

From:

John Warnstedt

Sent:

Monday, May 11, 2020 11:56 AM

To:

BOS Public Comment

Subject:

LETTER FOR MEETING MAY 12

Attachments:

NC May 10.docx

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

John Warnstedt

Vice President - Global Logistics



5000

May 10, 2020

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board County of Nevada 950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Nevada County Stay-at-Home Order Stage 2 Reopening

Dear Ms. Patterson Hunter and the Nevada County Board of Supervisors,

As residents, neighbors, and business owners in Nevada County, we care deeply about our communities. On March 19th, Governor Newsom issued his shelter-in-place order, closing non-essential businesses and prohibiting all non-essential travel. We knew that it was the right thing to do, to protect our community, business, and the traveling public. We commend the Governor for making this difficult decision and taking early action in the fight against COVID-19 and supporting the County of Nevada, issuing Stay-at-Home guidelines to keep us safe.

We're heartened that the data on the Nevada County COVID 19 Dashboard is a clear indication that our community has been successful in following the State and Nevada County Stay-at-Home guidelines and that those afflicted with COVID 19 have recovered. Our curve is flattened, with no new cases reported.

Daily, we wait for news from our Supervisors that measures have been taken to follow the examples of neighboring counties whose COVID 19 data mirrors our own. The Supervisors of those counties have written letters to the Governor and reopened their counties with precautions in place. We, in Nevada County, are compelled to remain sequestered and non-essential businesses are mandated to remain closed. It is difficult to watch our friends and neighbors go down the hill to neighboring counties to purchase goods and services while many of us are on the brink of financial collapse. Dollars spent outside of Nevada County; dollars that would help us recover economically, were we open.

In addition, many of those forced into confinement suffer health and mental health issues. Me included.

It is our feeling that you, as our elected officials, have chosen to not stand up for us. If you do not help us reopen, many small businesses in Nevada County will perish. We ask the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to stand with the constituency of the County. Please support our right as citizens to open our doors, our right as business owners to serve our community, and support us in restoring our livelihoods.

Governor Newsom is <u>UNCONSTITUTIONALLY</u> overstepping his authority by continuing to hold counties to the statewide order as businesses suffer. He is acting outside of the bounds of state law clearly defined, "The governor shall proclaim the termination of a state of emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant." This has become an issue of control, no longer an issue about the spread of a virus, and enough is enough.

Very few are talking about what the effects of this are having on our children. Schools closed, sports/activities that help them socially and off the couches to stay healthy are not an option. Why at this point? The data does not show any concern that opening schools and children activities will create any abnormal sickness concerns, other than the current mental sickness some children are effected in having them being socially isolated.

We respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors write a resolution asking California's Governor to immediately adhere to state law and terminate the current State of Emergency declaration, give local control back to the County of Nevada and reopen our businesses.

Sincerely,

John Warnstedt

John Warnstedt