



**COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

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Sean Powers, Agency Director

Agricultural Commissioner

Building Department

Environmental Health

Planning Department

Dept. of Public Works

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: October 13, 2020

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Amy Irani, Environmental Health Director

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the Waiver of Fiscal Year 20/21 Permit Fees for Bars, Body Art Facilities, Organized Camps, Restaurants, and Public Pools and Spas in Recognition of the Unique Impact COVID-19 Related Public Health Orders and Mandated Closures Have Had On These Types of Businesses

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the resolution.

FUNDING: Permit fee revenue is budgeted in the adopted Fiscal Year 20/21 Environmental Health budget. Fees for the business categories defined as being eligible under the proposed program range from \$96.10 up to \$1,009.05, depending on per-person capacity. The total billing for Fiscal Year 20/21 permits for the defined categories of businesses is \$260,383. The proposed waiver would reduce this revenue, but the total impact is unknown at this time. Total reduction in budgeted fee revenue will be driven by the quantity of applications received, and from which businesses they are submitted.

Federal CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) money may not be used to replace governmental revenue. The impact of this action on the Environmental Health budget and fund balances will be reviewed in the coming budget cycle. A budget amendment is not required at this time.

BACKGROUND: On March 10, 2020 the Board of Supervisors approved Resolutions 20-062, ratifying the declaration of a local health emergency in Nevada County, and 20-063, proclaiming a local emergency in Nevada County, due to rapid spread of COVID-19 and its threat to Nevada County. On March 19, 2020, the Governor of California issued a statewide Executive Order, N-33-20, requiring all Californians to remain in their home or place of residence, except as necessary to carry out essential activities, and to heed State Public Health Officer directives. California Department of Public Health issued Guidance for Compliance with the Governor's Orders in March, June, and July 2020. The Order issued on July 13, 2020 implemented a restriction requiring all restaurants to cease indoor dining activities and all bars and breweries were closed to both indoor and outdoor seating and service in response to COVID-19. Currently,

County of Nevada aforementioned facilities are operating in accordance to the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy which allows for 50% capacity indoor seating for restaurants in our current Moderate Tier. In addition to restaurants and bars, facilities that were also impacted by closures were Body Art and Tattoo, Recreational Public Pools and Spas and Organized Campgrounds.

The Environmental Health Department sends invoices to all permitted facilities at the beginning of the Fiscal Year, with payments coming due October 31, 2020. For the identified categories of businesses, those permit fees are based on in-person capacity. However, COVID-19 related public health orders have effectively removed that capacity from the identified categories of businesses. In order to address the disproportionate impact that these public health orders have had on the identified business categories, Environmental Health is proposing a program whereby eligible businesses can submit a simple, online application for a waiver of Fiscal Year 20/21 permit fees.

Item Initiated by: Amy Irani, Environmental Health Director

Approved by: Alison Lehman, County Executive Officer