

Agenda Item: File ID20-00609  
Date: 5/15/2020  
Council Meeting Date: 5/14/2020

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CITY OF FRESNO  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

## FRESNO CITY COUNCIL



### Supplemental Information Packet

Agenda Item – ID 20-00609, Actions pertaining to emergency relief related to COVID-19, Item 4-B

**Content of Supplement: Letters of Support Received During the Meeting**

#### Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

#### Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.



May 13, 2020

Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

**RE: Save our Small Businesses Program**

Dear City Council and Mayor,

On March 16, 2020, the City of Fresno declared a Local Emergency in response to the world-wide COVID-19 Pandemic. Since these declarations, small local businesses have experienced severe financial impacts through loss of revenue as a result of the Shelter in Place Order.

Although Congress and the State of California have enacted relief packages to address economic fallout, it is simply not enough to cover the needs that exist for our businesses. Therefore, on behalf of The Fresno Center (TFC), I am writing this letter of support for the following resolutions— (1) add small business grants to the existing Save our Small Businesses Program and (2) appropriate \$2 Million for small businesses—that will be presented before the Fresno City Council on May 14, 2020. These resolutions will further mitigate financial impacts and prevent our small businesses from permanently closing their doors.

TFC has over 28 years of history providing services to the community-at-large and has been recognized and trusted by many organizations and community leaders in Fresno with the capacity to work with refugees, new Americans, and the mainstream community. TFC has over 100 staff and volunteers who come from ethnically and culturally diverse backgrounds and has staff with the capacity to serve clients in 8 languages: English, Hmong, Lao, Thai, Khmer, Spanish, Punjabi, and Hindi. TFC is well-positioned to promptly and efficiently provide services and support to meet the identified critical needs of clients impacted by the pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, TFC served an average of 3,500 clients per month. With this funding, TFC will be able to immediately deploy the Save our Small Businesses Program to the hundreds of small local businesses that are in need.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to support these resolutions and further prevent our small local businesses from closing their doors. Thank you in advance for considering these efforts. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 559-255-8395 or [pao.yang@fresnocenter.org](mailto:pao.yang@fresnocenter.org).

Sincerely,

Pao Yang  
President & CEO

CC: Fresno City Clerk



May 12, 2020

Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: Housing Retention Grant Program

Dear City Council and Mayor,

On March 16, 2020, the City of Fresno declared a Local Emergency in response to the world-wide COVID-19 Pandemic. Since these declarations, working families have experienced severe financial impacts due to the Shelter in Place Order and residents are falling behind on rent payments due to job loss or health reasons. Although Congress and the State of California have enacted relief packages to address economic fallout, it is simply not enough to cover the needs that exist for our families.

Therefore, on behalf of The Fresno Center (TFC), I am writing this letter of support for the following resolutions—(1) create a Housing Retention Grant Program to assist Fresno families impacted by job loss or reduction in working hours related to COVID-19 and (2) appropriate \$1.5 million for housing retention grants—that will be presented before the Fresno City Council on May 14, 2020. These resolutions will further mitigate financial impacts and prevent future homelessness by ensuring that Fresno residents can pay their owed rent.

TFC has over 28 years of history providing services to the community-at-large and has been recognized and trusted by many organizations and community leaders in Fresno with the capacity to work with refugees, new Americans, and the mainstream community. TFC has over 100 staff and volunteers who come from ethnically and culturally diverse backgrounds and has staff with the capacity to serve clients in 8 languages: English, Hmong, Lao, Thai, Khmer, Spanish, Punjabi, and Hindi. TFC is well-positioned to promptly and efficiently provide services and support to meet the identified critical needs of clients impacted by the pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, TFC served an average of 3,500 clients per month. With this funding, TFC will be able to immediately deploy the Housing Retention Grant Program to hundreds of families in need.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to support these resolutions and further prevent our already vulnerable communities from experiencing homelessness. Thank you in advance for considering these efforts. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 559-255-8395 or [pao.yang@fresnocenter.org](mailto:pao.yang@fresnocenter.org)

Sincerely,

Pao Yang  
President & CEO

CC: Fresno City Clerk

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Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

May 13, 2020

Dear City Council and Mayor,

On March 16, 2020, the City of Fresno declared a Local Emergency in response to the world-wide COVID-19 Pandemic. Since these declarations, our local small businesses experienced severe financial impacts due to the Shelter in Place Order. Small Businesses have been severely impacted due to loss in revenue

Although Congress and the State have enacted relief packages to address economic fallout, it is simply not enough to cover the needs that exist for our businesses. Therefore, I am writing this letter of support for the resolutions adding small business grants to the existing Save or Small Businesses Program and appropriating \$2 Million for small businesses, that will be before the Fresno City Council on May 14, 2020.

These resolutions will further mitigate financial impacts and prevent our small businesses from permanently closing their doors.

On behalf of Faith in the Valley, we strongly urge you to support these resolutions and further assist our already vulnerable small business community.

Sincerely,

Amber Crowell, Regional Housing Coordinator  
Faith in the Valley

CC: Fresno City Clerk

4B

Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

May 13, 2020

Dear City Council and Mayor,

On March 16, 2020, the City of Fresno declared a Local Emergency in response to the world-wide COVID-19 Pandemic. Since these declarations, working families have experienced severe financial impacts due to the Shelter in Place Order. Residents are falling behind on rent payments whether due to job loss or health reasons.

Although Congress and the State have enacted relief packages to address economic fallout, it is simply not enough to cover the needs that exist for our families. Therefore, I am writing this letter of support for the resolutions creating a Housing Retention Grant Program to assist Fresno families impacted by job loss or reduction in working hours related to COVID-19, and appropriating \$1.5 million for housing retention grants, that will be before the Fresno City Council on May 14, 2020.

These resolutions will further mitigate financial impacts and prevent future homelessness by ensuring that Fresno residents have the ability to pay their owed rent.

On behalf of Faith in the Valley, we strongly urge you to support these resolutions and further prevent our already vulnerable communities from experiencing homelessness. We also strongly encourage the City to send a letter by mail to all renters in multiple languages notifying them about this critical relief program.

Sincerely,

Amber Crowell, Regional Housing Coordinator  
Faith in the Valley

CC: Fresno City Clerk

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**CENTRO LA FAMILIA**  
ADVOCACY SERVICES  
NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE CENTER

**OUR MISSION:**

*"providing services that empower  
and support families and individuals  
in our culturally diverse community"*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Bob Solis**, Chairperson  
Nurse RET, Fresno County  
Human Services & Det. Facility

**Graciela Santillan James**,  
Vice Chair,  
Officer, El Protector Community  
Outreach Program, California  
Highway Patrol

**Kim Kimura**, Treasurer  
Owner, Kasco Fab, Inc., Fresno

**Sue Kern**, Secretary  
Attorney, Fresno Superior Court

**Elizabeth Diaz**  
Attorney, Chief, Public Defender,  
Fresno County

**Rogelio Fernandez M.D.**  
Staff Physician,  
Adventist Hospitals

**Camille Cook**  
Certified Immigration Specialist  
Law Office of Camille K. Cook

**Corinne L. Florez, MSW**  
Title IV-E Child Welfare Program  
Coordinator, California State  
University Fresno, RET.

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

**Margarita Rocha**  
Executive Director

May 13, 2020

Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Small Businesses Grant Program

Dear City Council and Mayor,

On March 16, 2020, the City of Fresno declared a Local Emergency in response to the world-wide COVID-19 Pandemic. Since these declarations, our local small businesses experienced severe financial impacts due to the Shelter in Place Order. Small Businesses have been severely impacted due to loss in revenue

Although Congress and the State have enacted relief packages to address economic fallout, it is simply not enough to cover the needs that exist for our businesses. Therefore, I am writing this letter of support for the resolutions adding small business grants to the existing Save or Small Businesses Program and appropriating \$2 Million for small businesses, that will be before the Fresno City Council on May 14, 2020.

These resolutions will further mitigate financial impacts and prevent our small businesses from permanently closing their doors.

On behalf of Centro La Familia Advocacy Services and the community members we serve, we strongly urge you to support these resolutions and further assist our already vulnerable small business community.

Sincerely,

Margarita Rocha  
Executive Director  
Centro La Familia Advocacy Services

CC: Fresno City Clerk



**CENTRO LA FAMILIA**  
ADVOCACY SERVICES  
NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE CENTER

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Title IV-E Child Welfare Program  
Coordinator, California State  
University Fresno, RET.

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

**Margarita Rocha**  
Executive Director

May 13, 2020

Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Housing Retention Grant Program Letter of Support

Dear City Council and Mayor,

On March 16, 2020, the City of Fresno declared a Local Emergency in response to the world-wide COVID-19 Pandemic. Since these declarations, working families have experienced severe financial impacts due to the Shelter in Place Order. Residents are falling behind on rent payments whether due to job loss or health reasons.

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These resolutions will further mitigate financial impacts and prevent future homelessness by ensuring that Fresno residents have the ability to pay their owed rent.

On behalf of Centro La Familia Advocacy Services and the community members we serve, we strongly urge you to support these resolutions and further prevent our already vulnerable communities from experiencing homelessness.

Sincerely,

Margarita Rocha  
Executive Director  
Centro La Familia Advocacy Services

CC: Fresno City Clerk



Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

May 13, 2020

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These resolutions will further mitigate financial impacts and prevent our small businesses from permanently closing their doors.

On behalf of the Jakara Movement, we strongly urge you to support these resolutions and further assist our already vulnerable small business community.

Sincerely,

Naindeep Singh  
*Executive Director*  
c) 559-647-4700  
e) deep@jakara.org

CC: Fresno City Clerk





Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

May 12, 2020

Dear City Council and Mayor,

On March 16, 2020, the City of Fresno declared a Local Emergency in response to the worldwide COVID-19 Pandemic. Since these declarations, working families have experienced severe financial impacts due to the Shelter in Place Order. Residents are falling behind on rent payments whether due to job loss or health reasons.

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On behalf of the Jakara Movement, we strongly urge you to support these resolutions and further prevent our already vulnerable communities from experiencing homelessness.

Sincerely,

Naindeep Singh  
*Executive Director*  
c) 559-647-4700  
e) deep@jakara.org

CC: Fresno City Clerk

Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721



May 13, 2020

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These resolutions will further mitigate financial impacts and prevent our small businesses from permanently closing their doors.

On behalf of Eat It Up Personal Chef and Catering Service, we strongly urge you to support these resolutions and further assist our already vulnerable small business community.

Sincerely,

Teri Sanchez, Owner  
Eat It Up Personal Chef and Catering Service

CC: Fresno City Clerk

Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

May 13, 2020

Dear City Council and Mayor,

On March 16, 2020, the City of Fresno declared a Local Emergency in response to the world-wide COVID-19 Pandemic. Since these declarations, our local small businesses experienced severe financial impacts due to the Shelter in Place Order. Small Businesses have been severely impacted due to loss in revenue

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These resolutions will further mitigate financial impacts and prevent our small businesses from permanently closing their doors.

On behalf of Irene Saul, we strongly urge you to support these resolutions and further assist our already vulnerable small business community.

Sincerely,

Irene Saul

Irene's Café, Inc.

CC: Fresno City Clerk