

Public comment for Tuesday 04.28.2020 Council Meeting

From : Walter Muneton <walter.muneton@ggusd.us>

Mon, Apr 27, 2020 11:15 PM

Subject : Public comment for Tuesday 04.28.2020 Council Meeting**To :** cityclerk@ggcity.org

"Hello honorable Mayor, City Council, and staff members,

My name is Walter Muneton, president of the Garden Grove Unified School District's board of education. I am writing to urge the council to mandate, via a city ordinance, the use of masks for all people who are outside of their home or car. Examples include residents who maybe headed to a grocery, pharmacy or other essential business, should be required to wear a face mask. I do not need to get into the details of why this measure is needed to flatten the curve of COVID-19 as I am sure you are all caught up to date with evidence based research. At the district level we have done our part in assisting the garden grove community by providing nutritious meals, mental health services, a top quality education, and other programs & services that assist families with the fears related to covid 19. Now I am calling on the council to assist our community by providing measures that keep us safe. Together we can work towards a healthier Garden Grove. Thank you."

Walter Muneton, M.S.W.

President

GGUSD Board of Trustees, Area #3

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4/28/2020

Mayor Jones and City Councilmembers
City of Garden Grove
11300 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92842

Re: 2G. COVID-19 Response Funding Plan

Dear Members of the Council,

Chispa is a brave organizing political home for young Latinx identifying peoples. Chispa seeks to engage with excluded peoples to uproot systems of oppression and cultivate systems grounded in community accountability, solidarity, and self-determination for our communities to thrive.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated needs that were already existing in our communities. As you make amendments to your 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan to access emergency funding intended to assist in making a timely response to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic we ask that you consider/prioritize Economic Development, Housing, and Mental Health resources.

Economic Development:

Small businesses have been especially impacted as many do not have the working capital to weather months of mandated shut-down while maintaining payrolls and employment benefits. Small businesses and workers have been hard hit by COVID-19, and many will struggle to reopen. Workers need to be protected now and always. COVID-19 revealed the importance of paid sick leave and access to health care and coverage for all workers. The amendments being proposed include expanding the city's existing Small Business Assistance Loan (SBA) Program and amending its guidelines to increase the maximum loan amount for the SBA Program to \$50,000; and implementing the Jobs 1st Program that will provide grants up to \$25,000 to small businesses who retain low-income jobs for 3 months.

We commend your actions and recommend the following to make the program more accessible to the city's small businesses by:

- 1) **Re-building a robust local economy by waiving business and occupation taxes, permit and license fees for small businesses. For microbusinesses—those with less than five employees—we call on the city to provide grants that cover 40% of payroll costs for the duration of shelter-at-home, and**
- 2) **Holding larger companies accountable to worker policies around collective bargaining rights and paid sick leave; and more.**

Housing:

While there is a moratorium on evictions in place, housing costs are still a major concern, particularly for

lower-income households who may be at risk of homelessness once the moratorium is lifted Affordable Housing and Homelessness prevention must be a community priority to prevent increase in homelessness as housing protections are lifted. We support the proposed amendment allocating \$25,000 for Street Outreach efforts and \$150,000 for Rapid Rehousing to help house homeless individuals during COVID-19. Our recommendation would be that these investments are made in a way that addresses immediate housing needs and creates opportunities that can be leveraged in the near future to create new permanent affordable housing opportunities. The amendments also include an allocation of \$250,000 for Homeless Prevention that will include Rental Assistance for residents at risk of homelessness. There is a need for such a fund in the City of Garden Grove and it is important that it is accessible to residents with the greatest need. This includes residents that are undocumented and have very-low and extremely-low incomes. We commend your actions and recommend the following:

- **All of the \$250,000 for Homeless Prevention should be used for a Rental Assistance Program for residents at risk of homelessness**
- **The Rental Assistance Program should be without barriers**
 - **Prioritize residents that are of extremely low and very low income**
 - **Make this fund available to mixed immigration status households by prorating the rental relief they can receive based off the number of eligible recipients in the household**
 - **Do not require a 3-day pay or quit notice trigger as evictions have been paused**
 - **Do not have w-9 requirements for the tenant to receive the rental assistance funds or for their landlord to receive the tenant's rental assistance payment**
 - **Do not require that the tenant be able to provide ability to pay future rents as COVID-19 placed many in a state of financial uncertainty**

Thank you for your consideration of these critical elements of the City's response to COVID-19. We urge you to include the recommendations listed above. Your actions can address urgent, growing concerns about current affordable housing production—while promoting ongoing development of the affordable homes our residents desperately will need, during and after this crisis. If you have any questions please contact me at hairo@chispaoc.org

Sincerely,



Hairo Cortes
Executive Director
Chispa

April 28, 2020

Mayor Jones and City Councilmembers
City of Garden Grove
11300 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92842



www.kennedycommission.org
17701 Cowan Ave., Suite 200
Irvine, CA 92614
949 250 0909
Fax 949 263 0647

Re: 2G. COVID-19 Response Funding Plan

Dear Members of the Council,

The Kennedy Commission is a broad based coalition of residents and community organizations that advocates for the production of homes affordable for families earning less than \$20,000 annually in Orange County. Formed in 2001, the Commission has been successful in partnering and working with jurisdictions in Orange County to create effective policies that has led to the new construction of homes affordable to lower income working families.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated needs that were already existing in our communities. As you make amendments to your 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan to access emergency funding intended to assist in making a timely response to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic we ask that you consider/prioritize Economic Development, Housing, and Mental Health resources.

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Rehousing to help house homeless individuals during COVID-19. Our recommendation would be that these investments are made in a way that addresses immediate housing needs and creates opportunities that can be leveraged in the near future to create new permanent affordable housing opportunities. The amendments also include an allocation of \$250,000 for Homeless Prevention that will include Rental Assistance for residents at risk of homelessness. There is a need for such a fund in the City of Garden Grove and it is important that it is accessible to residents with the greatest need. This includes residents that are undocumented and have very-low and extremely-low incomes. We commend your actions and recommend the following:

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Thank you for your consideration of these critical elements of the City's response to COVID-19. We urge you to include the recommendations listed above. Your actions can address urgent, growing concerns about current affordable housing production—while promoting ongoing development of the affordable homes our residents desperately will need, during and after this crisis. If you have any questions please contact Cesar Covarrubias at cesarc@kennedycommission.org.

Sincerely,



Cesar Covarrubias
Executive Director



April 28, 2020

Mayor Jones and City Council Members
City of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Pkwy,
Garden Grove, CA 92840

RE: Item 2c: Authorize an extension of 60-day Surplus Land Act notification of interest deadline due to COVID-19

Mayor Jones and City Council Members,

The Rise Up Willowick Coalition ("the Coalition") is comprised of residents from the City of Santa Ana, the City of Garden Grove ("the City"), and neighboring Orange County Cities as well as local organizations whose goal is to ensure that the Willowick Golf Course property ("Willowick") is developed to meet the needs of current local residents and their vision-- especially the most vulnerable such as, but not limited to, working class individuals, youth, and immigrant residents -- which includes deep affordable housing, parkland for active recreational use, and open-space.

As we are experiencing the global COVID-19 pandemic, many residents that live near the Willowick site are experiencing economic hardship and emotional distress. In light of this, **the Coalition and the organizations below that have signed on to this letter are asking you to authorize an extension of the 60-day Surplus Land Act notification of interest deadline for another 60 days, moving the deadline from May 11, 2020 to July 10, 2020 as recommended by City Staff. Additionally, we ask that you extend the 90 day good faith negotiation to 120 days for the good faith negotiation period.**

Housing unaffordability is a concern for residents in the City of Garden Grove and Santa Ana, where the Willowick property is located. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines housing unaffordability as paying more than one third of a household's income to housing. In Garden Grove, about 42.2% of residents pay more than one third of their income to housing and about 17.4% of households in Garden Grove live in poverty¹. In addition to the already existing housing unaffordability that a little under half of all Garden Grove residents face, housing concerns are being and will continue to be exacerbated for arguably more residents, especially for households struggling to make ends meet for essential needs and their cost of living.

¹ Willowick: The Opportunity to Use Public Land for Public Good. October 2019.
<http://riseupwillowick.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/riseupwillowickreport.pdf>



In compliance with the California Surplus Land Act (SLA), on February 25, 2020, Garden Grove's City Council declared the Willowick Property as "surplus" through a resolution. The Coalition also writes this letter with the purpose of receiving more information as to how the City plans to comply with the SLA, specifically:

The SLA obligates a government entity to give priority to the notice that sets out to provide the highest and deepest level of housing affordability. -- How does the City plan to prioritize notices of intent?

How does the City plan to ensure that good faith negotiations take place?

The Coalition is interested in knowing how the City intends to act in the best interest of its residents during this unprecedented pandemic. While it is important to address the direct and immediate needs of residents at this time, we also urge the City to act on the best interests of its residents and support actions where long-term investments to vital needs, such as long-term affordable housing with deep levels of affordability and park space, can be supported and facilitated. The Coalition would appreciate a timely response to our letter seeing as the timeline for SLA compliance is moving forward. Please contact Cynthia Guerra at [\(857\) 318-3525](tel:8573183525) and at cguerra@riseupwillowick.org.

Thank you,

Cynthia Guerra

List of groups in support of the Garden Grove City Council APPROVING the extension in Item 2c:

Walter Muneton, President of the Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education

Public Law Center

Resilience Orange County

Kid Works Orange County

Latino Health Access

The Kennedy Commission

Please Support and Protect Local Immigrant Small Business Owners

From : peter mai <peter@cottrucking.com>

Tue, Apr 28, 2020 04:51 PM

Subject : Please Support and Protect Local Immigrant Small Business Owners

To : cityclerk@ggcity.org

Dear Mayor Steve Jones and members of the Garden Grove City Council,

My name is Peter Mai. I am a Vietnamese immigrant small business owner in the city of Garden Grove. I am the owner of COT Trucking, Co. and represent approximately 20 employees. On April 1, 2020 I was given a 1 week notice by V8 Investments, LLC to vacate my property stored at the lot at 12851 Nelson Street. I paid rent for the month of April and was not given an opportunity to negotiate or protect my belongings before everything was towed during a week of pouring rain. Myself and other impacted small business owners sent a letter to you all on Friday, April 24 to request your support in this matter. We are immigrant small business owners who are facing unprecedented hardships to our businesses and families during the COVID-19 pandemic and need protection.

I urge you to support all residents, community members, and small business owners who are especially impacted during this challenging time. No evictions should happen during COVID-19, especially in light of Governor Newsom's executive orders. I urge you to intervene in this matter by passing an ordinance that enacts a moratorium on all evictions for the next 6 months, call on V8 Investments, LLC to provide restitution to all of us, and protect us during a global public health crisis.

Sincerely,

Peter Mai, COT Trucking, Co.

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Peter Mai
Sr. Logistic Manager