



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MAYOR & COUNCIL TAKES HISTORIC AND UNANIMOUS VOTE TO PROTECT RENTERS, COMMERCIAL TENANTS, AND HOMEOWNERS

The National City City Council voted unanimously on Tuesday to enact a temporary moratorium on evictions due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The Urgency Ordinance adopted protects renters and commercial tenants from being evicted if they are unable to pay rent due to financial difficulties caused by COVID-19. The Ordinance also suspends foreclosures that could cause the eviction of a residential tenant, commercial tenant, or occupant homeowner when the basis for eviction is due to a substantial loss of income caused by COVID-19.

The Ordinance states that landlords cannot take action to evict a tenant for not paying rent that was due on or after March 17, 2020, if the tenant provides written notice to the landlord, on or before the date the rent was due or within a reasonable period of time not to exceed 7 days (for rent that was due between March 17, 2020 and April 7, 2020, the tenant will have until April 14, 2020 to provide written notice to the landlord), that the tenant is unable to pay rent due to financial impacts or other financial reasons related to COVID-19 not limited to the following:

- The tenant is unavailable to work because the tenant is sick with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 or caring for a household or family member who is sick with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19;
- The tenant has experienced a lay-off, loss of hours, or other income reduction resulting from COVID-19, the state of emergency, or related government response; or
- The tenant needs to miss work to care for a child whose school is closed in response to COVID-19.

Within 30 days from the date rent was due, the tenant must provide documentation to the landlord that they are unable to pay rent due to financial impacts related to COVID-19. The tenant will have six months from the date of the Ordinance or upon the California Governor's withdrawal of Executive Order N-28-20, whichever is soonest, to pay back all rent unless the tenant and landlord mutually agree to a repayment plan. The Ordinance is in effect until June 30, 2020 unless further extended by the City Council.

More information about the Ordinance is available on the National City website at www.nationalcityca.gov/covid-19housing.

