



A MESSAGE FOR OUR BUSINESSES

The City of National City understands the difficulties our business community is facing during these unprecedented times. It has been incredible to watch the ingenuity and true grit many of you have exhibited in rethinking your business models and stepping up to help the community. We also realize the incredible challenge for many of you in managing the continual updates, identifying resources, running your business and supporting your employees. The City of National City is working around the clock to keep you updated so you can focus on those things that matter most. Our website is filled with important information and resources. City staff is prepared and ready to guide you through this! #TogetherWeCan

Visit our website



San Diego County Updates

Protect Yourself and Employees With Cloth Face Coverings

Cloth face coverings are now recommended for the general public to wear when outside the home conducting essential activities. Employees working in an essential business establishment that serves food also must wear cloth face coverings while working.

[Attached is Addendum 1 to the Order of the Health Officer, effective April 3, 2020](#)

Addendum 1 adds the following requirements to the existing Order of the Health Officer:

Effective 12:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 4, 2020:

- All employees who may have contact with the public in any grocery store, pharmacy/drug store, convenience store, gas station, restaurant or other business establishment that serves food shall wear a cloth face covering as described in the [California Department of Public Health Face Covering Guidance](#).

No later than 12:00 a.m. on April 7, 2020:

- All businesses that remain in operation in accordance with the Order and that

allow members of the public to enter a facility must prepare and post a “Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol” on the form attached to the Order for each of their facilities open to the public in the county.

- The Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol must be posted at or near the entrance of the relevant facility, and shall be easily view-able by the public and employees.
- A copy of the Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol must also be provided to each employee performing work at the facility.
- All businesses shall implement the Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol and provide evidence of its implementation to any authority enforcing this Order upon demand.
- The Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol must ensure all required measures are implemented and must identify and require measures necessary to implement social distancing and sanitation at that facility.
- If the measures identified and implemented are not effective in maintaining proper social distancing and sanitation, additional measures shall be identified and implemented or the facility shall be closed.

[A fillable Social Distancing Protocol template can be found here and utilized to fulfill this requirement.](#)

Business Support

Landlords and Renters

In alignment with California Governor Gavin Newsom’s Executive Orders N-28-20 and N-37-20, the City Council of the City of National City will also be considering an Urgency Ordinance for adoption at their regularly scheduled meeting on April 7 starting at 6:00 pm. The Urgency Ordinance would further declare a temporary moratorium on residential and commercial evictions for those impacted financially by COVID-19 in National City. This web page will be updated by April 8 with additional information upon adoption of the Urgency Ordinance to reflect any additional conditions of the proposed Urgency Ordinance. City Council Agenda [here](#).

Reduced Work Hours

Employers experiencing a slowdown in their businesses or services as a result of the coronavirus impact on the economy may apply for the Unemployment Insurance (UI) [Work Sharing Program](#) through the [State of California Employment Development Department](#). This program allows employers to seek an alternative to layoffs — retaining their trained employees by reducing their hours and wages that can be partially offset with UI benefits. Workers of employers who are approved to participate in the Work Sharing Program receive the percentage of their weekly UI benefit amount based on the percentage of hours and wages reduced. To qualify, employers must reduce hours and wages by at least 10 percent, but no more than 60 percent.

Potential Closure or Layoffs

Employers planning a closure or major layoffs as a result of the coronavirus can get help through the Rapid Response program. Rapid Response teams will meet with you to discuss your needs, help avert potential layoffs, and provide immediate on-site services to assist workers facing job losses. For more information, refer to the [Rapid Response Services for Businesses Fact Sheet](#) or contact the South County Career Center at [619-628-0300](tel:619-628-0300).

SDWP - COVID-19: Updates [for workers](#) and [businesses](#)

- [San Diego County COVID-19 resources](#)

Utilities

[SDG&E will waive late payment fees](#) and will not disconnect service for business customers experiencing financial hardship and unable to pay their gas and electricity bills. Businesses are encouraged to contact the SDG&E Contact Center at 1-800-411-7343 for more information and to make late payment arrangements. Additionally, [Sweetwater Authority](#) is currently suspending water shutoffs for failure to pay water bills.

Local Agency Support

As your business navigates the Covid-19 public health emergency, the **San Diego and Imperial Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Network** is here to help today with your immediate capital needs and in the long-term as you have to pivot and negotiate the eventual economic recovery. Their one-on-one business counseling services are free to you. Please register for services at <https://sdsbdc.ecenterdirect.com/signup>

As you navigate serious drops in cash flow and in preparation for requesting any capital assistance here some steps you can take: (1) contact your creditors to request a deferral on any loans you have, (2) work with your landlord if you are needing to delay any rent payment, and (3) make sure your 2019 and prior financials are in order.

The California Restaurant Association is working to support the local restaurant community by compiling a list of all restaurants who are offering pick-up, delivery and drive-thru services at this time. Receive free promotion and sign-up your restaurant on the [California Restaurant Association's website](#).

The **South County Economic Development Council** is offering one-time, zero interest loans up to \$5,000 to South Bay restaurants to assist in staying open and continuing to serve food. Additional information and the one-page application is [available here](#). **Apply today!**

The City of National City has created a special Facebook event page dedicated to eateries open for business during COVID-19. The community driven event page is already live and helping residents discover who is open for business. We encourage you to participate and connect directly with our community by [clicking here](#) to join the event page today.

Navigating the CARES Act

On Friday March 27, 2020, President Trump signed the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act into law. This 2 trillion dollar stimulus bill is the largest emergency spending measure in U.S. history. The Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship has condensed the nearly [900 page document](#) into an easy-to-read brief guide for businesses to understand what funding and resources are available to them. [Click here](#) to find out how the CARES Act can help your business during this unprecedented time.

[Small Business Owners Guide to the CARES Act](#)

For more information

[For more information please visit the City of National City website](#)

