

## Julie Enea

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**From:** Kathy Renner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 5, 2020 5:26 PM  
**To:** Julie Enea  
**Subject:** Public comment for May 7 Ad Hoc meeting with Candace Anderson & Karen Mitchoff

In case I am unable to make the zoom call on Thursday, I would like to offer the following suggestions. I am certainly advocating for opening our businesses ASAP as the unemployment far outweighs the shut down that has occurred for the last almost 8 weeks, in my opinion. I also understand the position you need to have on the "safety" of such measures, but the future of our cities, county and state is in jeopardy. With less than 30 covid deaths county wide and under 25 in the hospital, we have not overwhelmed our medical facilities; in fact many have such little activity that staff is being furloughed. In addition, we have seen that the virus affects the elderly and those with "underlying conditions" more. Quarantine the vulnerable but the healthy need to get back to work!

Finally, the measures taken thus far could be considered unconstitutional violating the freedom of movement, freedom of speech, freedom of religion and freedom of assembly. We have to BALANCE civil liberties with public health; not take one at expense of the other. The government must take the least restrictive measures and it's time to loosen up the restrictions. For goodness sakes, it feels like the homeless and formerly incarcerated have more rights & services than the average taxpayer (who is a prisoner in their own home)! Do I have the right to leave my own home to pursue providing for my family?

That being said, we have survived going to the grocery stores and to the home improvement stores under lock down since March 17; we can be trusted as citizens to open the following immediately:

1. Businesses with one on one interaction such as all medical appointments routine and otherwise (doctors, therapists etc.)
2. All elective and routine surgeries to the extent not already OK'd
3. Other businesses with one on one interactions - haircuts, barbers, etc.
4. Drive in movies and other businesses that could operate with a drive in feature - churches, etc.
5. Restaurants, bars etc. that have an outdoor area; keep in store patrons limited to distance requirements as necessary
6. Recreational facilities that could maintain the distance while keeping open (gyms, spas, pools).
7. Retail cannot survive on curb side only; Add in store patrons limited to the distance requirements. (An example: Sears in Sun Valley is such a large store that you could fit a larger number of people inside vs. a small grocery store).

If above follow the standards in place already, it should be fairly easy for everyone. I'm sure there are more ideas but these are a few off the top of my head.

Finally, we must indemnify the businesses & workers and the public such that no one gets sued or in trouble for being an open business. Unfortunately, the virus is not going away and people will continue to get sick. BUT, many of us probably have already had it (myself in late January) and/or have had it with no symptoms. The face covering situation should prevent the virus droplets from landing on anyone close. We have to open up as livelihoods lost will far outweigh the virus. Our business keep us all going; and keep the tax revenue flowing to the city/county services. The federal government money is tapped out and the state government is already blown through its "rainy day" fund and unemployment trust fund. We need to be in charge of our own local destiny.

Thank you for your consideration and expediency in getting this accomplished!  
Kathy Renner  
Pleasant Hill resident for over 30 years

