

General Public Comment

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Your Name</u>	<u>City of Residence</u>	<u>Comments (1500 character limit)</u>
General Public Comment	HARRY E BAKER	Pleasant Hill	<p>- County workers are in short supply of PPEs (Personal Protection Equipment). The County should make it a top priority to acquire the equipment needed. It should seriously look into the supply of N95 masks available through one of the unions.</p> <p>- Too many County Social workers and Eligibility Workers are being forced to work from their offices where they cannot practice social distancing. If they had County-issued laptops to connect to files, they could work with their clients from home. This is a common practice with many or most county offices other than Contra Costa. A coalition of unions is demanding social distancing and PPEs and is being met with a refusal to meet and confer by Contra Costa administrators.</p> <p>- The Board of Supervisors normally meets every Tuesday, but their schedule for after tomorrow's meeting indicates they do not plan to meet again as a full board until April 21. That's abandoning a sinking ship. That's turning their back on the County when they should be providing leadership.</p>

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General Public Comment	Chris Broglio	El Sobrante	<p>As a community of resident leaders, organizations, practitioners, and advocates, we are united in asking for these immediate steps to protect Contra Costa from the COVID-19 virus and its rippling impacts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.Workers Rights: Protective gear for frontline health workers.</li> <li>2.Tenant Protections: Rent increase and eviction moratorium, and renters emergency fund.</li> <li>3.Stop the spread in our jails- Release incarcerated people to their families and stop the inflow to our county jails.</li> <li>4.Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions.</li> <li>5.Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic: Residents, local businesses, and community-based organizations are looking to their Board of Supervisors for action, reassurance and information. Whether through virtual town halls, regular written communications, or other means, the Board of Supervisors must show strong leadership during this difficult time, and convey a sense that we are all in this together.</li> </ol>

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General Public Comment	Elizabeth Sanchez	Richmond	<p>As a community of resident leaders, organizations, practitioners, and advocates, we are united in asking for these immediate steps to protect Contra Costa from the COVID-19 virus and its rippling impacts.</p> <p>Workers Rights: Protective gear for frontline health workers.</p> <p>Tenant Protections: Rent increase and eviction moratorium, and renters emergency fund. Stop the spread in our jails- Release incarcerated people to their families and stop the inflow to our county jails.</p> <p>Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions.</p> <p>Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic: Residents, local businesses, and community-based organizations are looking to their Board of Supervisors for action, reassurance and information. Whether through virtual town halls, regular written communications, or other means, the Board of Supervisors must show strong leadership during this difficult time, and convey a sense that we are all in this together.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
General Public Comment	Joshua Anijar	Contra Costa Labor Council	(Attachment/Letter)
General Public Comment	Marianna Moore	Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa	(Attachment/Letter)
General Public Comment	Joseph Greaves	Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association	(Attachment/Letter)

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General Public Comment	Melvin Lee Willis Jr.	Richmond	<p>As a community of resident leaders, organizations, practitioners, and advocates, we are united in asking for these immediate steps to protect Contra Costa from the COVID-19 virus and its rippling impacts.</p> <p>Workers Rights: Protective gear for frontline health workers.</p> <p>Tenant Protections: Rent increase and eviction moratorium, and renters emergency fund.</p> <p>Stop the spread in our jails- Release incarcerated people to their families and stop the inflow to our county jails.</p> <p>Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions.</p> <p>Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic: Residents, local businesses, and community-based organizations are looking to their Board of Supervisors for action, reassurance and information. Whether through virtual town halls, regular written communications, or other means, the Board of Supervisors must show strong leadership during this difficult time, and convey a sense that we are all in this together.</p>
General Public Comment	Sasha Graham	Albany	<p>As a community of resident leaders, organizations, practitioners, and advocates, we are united in asking for these immediate steps to protect Contra Costa from the COVID-19 virus and its rippling impacts.</p> <p>Workers Rights: Protective gear for frontline health workers.</p> <p>Tenant Protections: Rent increase and eviction moratorium, and renters emergency fund.</p> <p>Stop the spread in our jails- Release incarcerated people to their families and stop the inflow to our county jails.</p> <p>Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions.</p> <p>Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic: Residents, local businesses, and community-based organizations are looking to their Board of Supervisors for action, reassurance and information. Whether through virtual town halls, regular written communications, or other means, the Board of Supervisors must show strong leadership during this difficult time, and convey a sense that we are all in this together</p>

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General Public Comment	Jovanka Beckles	Richmond	<p>As a community of resident leaders, organizations, practitioners, and advocates, we are united in asking for these immediate steps to protect Contra Costa from the COVID-19 virus and its rippling impacts.</p> <p>Workers Rights: Protective gear for frontline health workers.</p> <p>Tenant Protections: Rent increase and eviction moratorium, and renters emergency fund.</p> <p>Stop the spread in our jails- Release incarcerated people to their families and stop the inflow to our county jails.</p> <p>Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions.</p> <p>Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic: Residents, local businesses, and community-based organizations are looking to their Board of Supervisors for action, reassurance and information. Whether through virtual town halls, regular written communications, or other means, the Board of Supervisors must show strong leadership during this difficult time, and convey a sense that we are all in this together.</p>
General Public Comment	Mark Pope	Richmond	<p>As a community of resident leaders, organizations, practitioners, and advocates, we are united in asking for these immediate steps to protect Contra Costa from the COVID-19 virus and its rippling impacts.</p> <p>Workers Rights: Protective gear for frontline health workers.</p> <p>Tenant Protections: Rent increase and eviction moratorium for residential and commercial and renters emergency fund.</p> <p>Stop the spread in our jails- Release incarcerated people to their families and stop the inflow to our county jails.</p> <p>Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions.</p> <p>Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic: Residents, local businesses, and community-based organizations are looking to their Board of Supervisors for action, reassurance and information. Whether through virtual town halls, regular written communications, or other means, the Board of Supervisors must show strong leadership during this difficult time, and convey a sense that we are all in this together.</p>

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General Public Comment	Ogie Strogatz	Walnut Creek	<p>As a community of resident leaders, organizations, practitioners, and advocates, we are united in asking for these immediate steps to protect Contra Costa from the COVID-19 virus and its rippling impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Workers Rights: Protective gear for frontline health workers.</li> <li>* Tenant Protections: Rent increase and eviction moratorium, and renters emergency fund.</li> <li>* Stop the spread in our jails- Release incarcerated people to their families and stop the inflow to our county jails.</li> <li>* Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions.</li> <li>* Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic: Residents, local businesses, and community-based organizations are looking to their Board of Supervisors for action, reassurance and information. Whether through virtual town halls, regular written communications, or other means, the Board of Supervisors must show strong leadership during this difficult time, and convey a sense that we are all in this together.</li> </ul>
General Public Comment	Debbie Toth	Choice in Aging	<p>As a provider of services to fragile and low-income elders, who are often one mishap from homelessness, I implore you to adopt a countywide eviction moratorium, a rent increase moratorium, and a renters assistance fund. We also need to see the county working collaboratively with the boots on the ground nonprofits serving those at greatest risk of death and poor outcomes from COVID-19 and ensuring funding streams and resources are available to support efforts to ensure no county resident at risk goes without food, shelter, medicine and is free from abuse and neglect. We stand at the ready to participate.</p>
General Public Comment	Sarah Spiegel	Albany	<p>As a public defender, I am the only point of contact for my in-custody clients, who are locked up indefinitely during the court closures. I can see how scared many of them are, not knowing when they will go to court or see their families. During this global pandemic, Contra Costa County should be doing everything possible to send inmates home to their families, to avoid the spread of COVID in the jails, to keep jail employees, court staff, judges and attorneys safe.</p>
General Public Comment	JC		<p>As a resident and employee of CCC, i'm requesting that there be a stricter screening for everyone that has to enter an essential business (including employees and customers/clients) building. Some employees or customers show symptoms like cough, or fever or cold that still go to work or to groceries and potentially increasing risk for entire County residents. For people that shows symptoms and not have anybody else to go out on their behalf to grocery, please provide them a committee that would assist them. This would help enforce people that are sick to stay home and not infect more people.</p>

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General Public Comment	Jan Warren	Walnut Creek	<p>As a resident I request that the Board of Supervisors of CCC be a strong and clear voice of support and protection for those in our County.</p> <p>There are steps that can help us all weather these difficult times: Workers Protections, Tenant Protections, and reduction in population in our jails to protect their health.</p> <p>The Governor's eviction moratorium has important gaps that a County moratorium can address. We need an eviction moratorium with a sufficient grace period to re-pay rent, halts evictions, and freezes rent increases.</p> <p>Many families do not qualify for public benefits or receive paid sick leave. We need Countywide financial assistance for supplies for front line workers like the home health aides who care for the sick and elderly who don't have protective gear, yet keep people safe at home and out of the hospitals.</p> <p>I ask that you schedule 2 Board meetings a month to address unanticipated emergencies. I ask that you meet to address these concerns as the next 2 weeks will be critical to keeping more people from being infected by the COVID-19 virus.</p>
General Public Comment	Sharricci Dancy		<p>As a SEIU Local 1021 social worker I would like to request an Essential Worker Differential since I am not allowed to work from home because the county considers my position to be an "essential worker" position, which I understand. I would like to be compensated for working in, what is now, hazardous conditions. Thank you.</p>
General Public Comment	Karen Ingenthron	San Pablo	<p>As a senior living in a community of senior citizens, I/we are especially vulnerable to CORVID 19. Our Governor has put in place a stay-at-home order with special emphasis on quarantining elders. There is much we would like to do for ourselves, but may not. Many of us have jobs which may be necessary to pay rent, food, home-care, medicine and healthcare. Some of us struggle to provide basics on insufficient Social Security payments. But we are stuck. Our situation is not ours alone, as many residents have to face financial, medical, food sufficiency and other shortfalls. However, we are categorically "at risk". Please be aware of our unique vulnerabilities and support Contra Costa County seniors.</p>
General Public Comment	Patricia Aguiar	Bay point	<p>AS community residents leaders, organizations , practitioners, and advocates,we are united in asking for this immediate steps to protect Contra Costa from from the COVIC19 virus and its rippling impacts.</p> <p>Workers Rights: protective gear for frontline health workers.</p> <p>Tenant Protections : Rent increase and evitions moratorium , and renters emergency fund .</p> <p>Financial Assistant : Establish a fund , to support the residents who needs help with essencial supplies ,such diappers ,gas, food and prescriptions.</p> <p>Consistent communications with the community about this pandemic.</p>

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General Public Comment	Susan Guest	CONCORD	<p>As Contra Costa County has lead the State and Nation in the Shelter-In-Place order with the other Bay Area jurisdictions, so must Contra Costa County join the other the Bay Area counties in assuring its employees are not harmed by this unprecedented event we are all experiencing. Employees should be paid throughout this event and not have to use their accruals. We are disaster service workers. We are employees who will be there for our employer, but you must let us first be there for our children, for our families, and for the most vulnerable, our elderly family members. Many employees are overwhelmed. Employees are fearful. We must together come up with sane rational solutions that do not harm employees and supports the County. As Supervisor Gioia has posted again and again "We are all in this together". If we are then work with the County unions; work with the employees. Do not create more fear and anxiety where there is already enough as their is no greater fear than losing one's life or the lives of your family. As a County we save our reserves for "rainy days"....right now it is pouring. Let's work together to make sure we survive and don't contribute to the already domino effect of COVID19. Stay safe. Stay well. Stay home.</p>
General Public Comment	Elsa Stevens	Richmond	<p>As resident leaders, organizations, practitioners, and advocates, we ask you to protect Contra Costa from the COVID-19 virus and its rippling impacts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.Protective gear for health workers and all essential workers.</li> <li>2.Rent increase and eviction moratorium, and renters' emergency fund.</li> <li>3.Shrink our jail population.</li> <li>4.Help residents with essentials, such as diapers, gas, food and Rx's.</li> <li>5.Virtual town halls, the Board of Supervisors must show leadership.</li> </ol> <p>In the War-Against-Coronavirus, let's be WAR HEROES not war criminals by omission.</p>
General Public Comment	County worker	Martinez	<p>Can you consider option to allow current contracts expiring to be automatically extended beyond July to Sept? Limited county staff at County Counsel, Risk Mgmt, contract Units, Labor Relations, are available to process current CG-3s, CG-10s, etc. due to Covid related limitations in staffing.</p>



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General Public Comment	Benisa Berry, on behalf of the Community Leaders Network	Concord	<p>Chairwoman Andersen and Supervisors Burgis, Gioia, Glover and Mitchoff,</p> <p>I am writing on behalf of the East County Community Leaders Network (East County CLN), which includes residents across Contra Costa County, with membership primarily in Bay Point and Pittsburg.</p> <p>We thank the Board for working together with the community to develop a well thought out plan to stop the spread and address the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have growing concerns about children and families who are at risk of losing their homes and who face severe financial and health risk at this moment.</p> <p>We request a proactive comprehensive approach that includes the following key elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tenant protections (to include an eviction and rent increase moratorium that goes beyond the Governor's moratorium on eviction,</li> <li>2. Worker protections (to include sick leave, protective gear, supplies for front line workers, child care workers etc.)</li> <li>3. Financial Assistance that recognizes all workers who are unemployed or are experiencing reduced hours will not qualify for unemployment and are struggling and at risk of losing their homes.</li> <li>4. Decrease in Jail population (to include improved conditions in jail, access to medical care and reduced population).</li> </ol> <p>We count on you to take action, and mobilize resources to uphold our county's values, promote stability and protect our health during this difficult and unprecedented time.</p> <p>Thank you, Benisa Berry Community Leaders Network</p>
General Public Comment	County worker	Martinez	Community organizations have experienced delays in receiving payments from Auditor Office. Part of the reason remains limited staff at Auditor Office and or Risk Mgmt delaying clearance for insurance. Can this be looked into? Many CBOs are living paycheck to paycheck.
General Public Comment	Susan	Pinole	County needs to plan for spike in covid 19 hospitalizations. Is their enough equipment. Safety measures, protective equipment. Shuttered schools, gyms the empty and boarded up hospital in Pinole. Use of temporary hospital construction at the old Brookside hospital site. There is an old Kaiser hospital that has been shuttered for decades in Richmond. Think of using these spaces.

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General Public Comment	Taylor Sims	Pittsburg	<p>COVID19 has had a tremendous impact on my loved ones lives. I've seen so many of my friends terrified they won't be able to pay rent due to losing their jobs. My friends don't know how they will feed their kids because they lost their jobs. How will they be able to pay all the rent they owe when this is all over? We need to protect our citizens and make them feel safe and secure during this pandemic, fix the problem BOS. Our community needs to feel protected during this troubling time.</p>
General Public Comment	Raul	Vasquez	<p>Dear Board of Supervisors,</p> <p>I am asking you today to pass a moratorium on all evictions throughout Contra Costa County due to the recent impacts of Covid-19, while also urging you to release all criminals convicted of minor offenses due to the outbreak. Failure to provide a moratorium on all evictions during a time in where a large number of residents do not have steady income or do not have expendable resources to pay for mortgages and rent payments, will result in an unprecedented number of residents being forced out of their homes for no fault of their own. Jails are very crowded and congested environments, making them perfect for the widespread contraction of Covid-19, releasing criminals of minor offenses will lessen this congestion in prisons and send these men and women with low sentences home. Again, not providing a moratorium on all evictions to the residents of Contra Costa County and refusing to release criminals with minor offenses will result in further deaths and damage to what we have already seen today.</p> <p>Sincerely, Raul Vasquez</p>
General Public Comment	Sarah MonPere	Albany	<p>Dear Board of Supervisors,</p> <p>Thank you for reading and hearing my comment. I am a public defender in Contra Costa County. I have spent the last two weeks helping to track the number of incarcerated people in Contra Costa county that are particularly medically vulnerable to COVID19. We are currently incarcerating people who clearly meet the category of those at high risk of dying of COVID19. There are people at this moment in jail who suffer from asthma, respiratory complications, cancer, epilepsy, diabetes, and other ailments. There are people at this moment in jail that are elderly, in their 60s and 70s. Many, if not most, of these people could be released back into the community with no threat to the public. I have spent 13 years going into the jails in this county. If you have never been, please go tour them. Imagine being in there with no ability to protect yourself from this virus. Our clients don't have the ability to wash their hands any time they want for as long as they want or wear a mask or stay away from other people. People will die of this virus if they are left in our jails. You have an opportunity to save their lives, just like those in power are doing in New York and Italy and Iran. Please give our clients the same ability to protect themselves that each of you have.</p>

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General Public Comment	Jeff Landau	Berkeley	<p>Dear Supervisors,</p> <p>I submit this public comment as a steering committee member of the Contra Costa County Racial Justice Coalition.</p> <p>At this time of crisis, we need our supervisors to take the lead in protecting the health of our community by coordinating efforts to reduce the number of people in our county jails. While certain important policy decisions are in the hands of the courts, the District Attorney, and the Sheriff, the BOS can ask those departments for answers this morning to make sure that necessary action is being taken. To DA Becton, what timeline can she give for the release of people who are in jail because they cannot afford money bail? Also to DA Becton, why are juveniles still in custody, and when will they be released to their parents or guardians? To Sheriff Livingston, what is his plan to protect the health of people in custody, and when will the details of that plan be reported to the public?</p>
General Public Comment	Nataniel Johnson-Gottlieb	Martinez	<p>Do the right thing. Lead in this moment. The lives of those incarcerated are literally in your hands. Our most vulnerable, including the many human beings still being held in the jail, are those suffering the greatest. Hold the DA and the Sheriff accountable. Ask them immediately, why it is that the jails remain full in these unprecedented times? The sheriff continues to delay, and the DA, despite her letter, has not taken the bold action that this moment requires. Thus far, neither have you. Please act now.</p>
General Public Comment	Shavon		<p>During this time of great fear and uncertainty, we cling to the facts. We grasp on to what we know and try to find some comfort in whatever silver linings the truth may offer. But in the case of our incarcerated population, there is no silver lining. These members of our community—your community— are languishing in jails and prisons without adequate health and safety measures. Fact: jails are a hotspot for infection. Fact: there are people in our jails who have been exposed to COVID-19. Fact: most states and counties are coordinating mass releases of detained people to help flatten the curve. Fact: if you do not do the same, people in OUR community will die.</p> <p>You have an obligations to save lives during this crisis, and that obligation extends to every single member of your community. By allowing law enforcement and the courts to decide that only some people worthy of safety and others deserve exposure, they are rendering effective death sentences throughout the community. Not just among the incarcerated, but their workers. Police officers. Corrections officers. Healthcare workers. Their families. And anyone who is exposed to them thereafter in the grocery store or, inevitably, the hospital. Please exercise whatever authority you possess to depopulate our jails and prisons. Lives depend on it.</p>
General Public Comment	Luis Chacon	Contra Costa	<p>Financial assistance during COVID pandemic: I support the establishment of a fund, or contributions to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions. This should indeed come from emergency funds or if those don't exist, be proactive about requesting funds from state and federal government.</p>

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General Public Comment	Erika	Concord	Financial assistance for underrepresented families (immigrants), and for small businesses.
General Public Comment	JESSIKA GREEN	Brentwood	Financial assistance is crucial at at this time! Many residents were all ready cutting corners to make ends meet but for those who are out of work ie; independent contractors, self employed, lyft drivers and gig workers finances are even more scarce.
General Public Comment	Katie Wutchiett	Oakland	<p>For years, I have worked with Contra Costa Maternal Child and Adolescent Health to provide employment-related legal services to families, including help with accessing pregnancy leave, parental leave, and paid family leave.</p> <p>I thank the Board for informing the community and sharing needed resources and encourage you to pass needed policies.</p> <p>We need tenant protections countywide. We need an eviction moratorium with a sufficient grace period to re-pay rent, halts ALL evictions, and freezes rent increases.</p> <p>Families and child care providers also need support. Many families do not qualify for public benefits or receive paid sick leave. We need countywide financial assistance and supplies for front line workers to be protected and stop the spread of COVID-19. Worker protections, including paid leave and paid sick days can play a critical role in supporting families economically and keeping them tied to the labor market. My organization, Legal Aid at Work has been involved in helping with developing paid sick and paid leave policies at a state and local level. If we can be of assistance, do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Lastly, we urge you to protect the public's health by evaluating jail conditions and decreasing the jail population.</p> <p>Please meet again next week to respond to our needs. We count on you to pass policies uphold our county's values and protect our health during this difficult time</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

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General Public Comment	Ken Berrick		<p>Good afternoon honorable board of supervisors. My name is Ken Berrick and I'm the founder and CEO of Seneca Family of Agencies. Like many organizations that comprise the public safety net of Contra Costa, Seneca is in an absolute crisis as we try to quickly shift to address the needs of the children and families we serve, during covid-19. Given the nature of this crisis, we have seen an inevitable transition in service provision as new, pressing needs arise in families across the county. While we're still providing crucial safety net services, our modality has shifted. Concurrently, we've seen a decrease across all traditional behavioral health services due to school closures. There has been an inevitable decrease in volume of services as we've shifted to new modalities of engagement; combined across the system and without adjustment following clear guidance from the Board of Supervisors, these changes will be catastrophic and we will have to begin laying off the providers that care, committedly, for the children and families of Contra Costa. We're asking to temporarily adjust our rate structure within the context of our current contracts so we can both maximize our availability to communities now and in the future and maximize our ability to draw down Federal Financial Participation. I'm deeply appreciative of your support to allow us to move forward in this difficult circumstance; Seneca is here to be of service in any way that the board sees fit. Thank you.</p>

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General Public Comment	Deborah Polk	Antioch	<p>Good morning Supervisors, my name is Deborah Polk, Antioch resident, landlord and a proud member of the East County Regional Group sponsored by First 5 Contra Costa. We are a group of parent volunteer advocates to create healthier, safer and more equitable communities for children and families.</p> <p>We believe that all families deserve a safe and secure place to live. We ask you to help families stay in their homes during this health crisis by passing a countywide moratorium on evictions and rent increases.</p> <p>The current shelter in place order has shut down jobs in the service industry and left many families with little to no income. Families were already living from paycheck to paycheck. Now with COVID-19, financial stress is felt even more strongly by vulnerable families.</p> <p>As a landlord, I understand the need to collect rents, but I also have an obligation to support folks in my community unable to work at the moment. A moratorium would allow families to stay in their homes. It's the right thing to do!</p> <p>We also ask you to support us with cash assistance and needed gear for front line workers. And finally, please prevent the spread of COVID-19 by decreasing the jail population and providing needed tests, supplies and physical distancing to those in county jail.</p> <p>During this unparalleled time I ask that you protect our most vulnerable populations by scheduling a special session to address these items. We must all step up to do what we can to help others.</p> <p>Thank you</p>

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General Public Comment	Brandon Banks	Martinez	<p>Good morning Supervisors,</p> <p>My name is Brandon Banks and I am a deputy public defender.</p> <p>We are facing a once in a generation health crisis that has already exacted a heavy toll on residents in Contra Costa County. But, once again, it is our clients who are placed in the most vulnerable position and subjected to the harshest conditions.</p> <p>Far too many of our clients remain in custody on non-violent, non-serious allegations. And as many of you know, these people are indigent, lack adequate health care resources, and largely people of color.</p> <p>I am calling on the Board of Supervisors to lead the charge in reducing our jail population and advocate for the release of our clients who deserve to be protected from unnecessary exposure to one of the deadliest diseases our community has ever experienced.</p> <p>- Brandon Banks</p>

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General Public Comment	Christine Clark	Antioch, CA	<p>Good Morning Supervisors. My name is Christine Clark, an Antioch resident and the Co-Chair of the East County Regional Group.</p> <p>Our group is committed to creating a healthy, safe and more equitable East county for young children and families.</p> <p>During this extraordinarily difficult time for families, our Group requests that you pass a countywide eviction and rent increase moratorium for all residents of Contra Costa County.</p> <p>Due to the COVID-19 crisis, there are thousands of residents and families who are unsure of where their paycheck will be coming from. Many of our own ECRG members have been laid off indefinitely and not everyone in our County qualifies for unemployment insurance. What are families supposed to do to pay their rent and guarantee shelter for their children? No family should have to worry about losing their home during this public health crisis.</p> <p>As for myself, I do currently have a job, however, depending on how long this shelter in place goes on, I may be out of one. My job deals with expenses but with no travel, outside meetings, conferences, etc, we are not getting as much work. Our workload has decreased by approximately 75%. I currently live paycheck to paycheck so if I do lose my job, I will definitely not be able to afford living in my Antioch home.</p> <p>For these reasons we urge you to pass a countywide eviction and rent increase moratorium NOW for residents of Contra Costa County during this COVID-19 crisis.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>



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General Public Comment	Alexina Rojas	San Pablo	<p>Good morning. My name is Alexina and I work in San Pablo and Richmond, supporting many vulnerable families.</p> <p>I write to you concerned about thousands of children, families, and child care providers facing severe financial and health risk at this moment.</p> <p>I thank the Board for informing the community and sharing needed resources. These actions are important and helpful.</p> <p>Please protect our public’s health, families and workers by passing needed policies.</p> <p>We need tenant protections countywide. The Governor’s recent eviction moratorium is not enough. We need an eviction moratorium with a sufficient grace period to re-pay rent, halts ALL evictions, and freezes rent increases.</p> <p>No family should face losing their home because of an inability to pay rent at this time. A strong, comprehensive emergency moratorium is needed now.</p> <p>Families and child care providers also need support. Many families do not qualify for public benefits or receive paid sick leave. We need countywide financial assistance and supplies for front line workers to be protected and stop the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>Lastly, we urge you to protect the public’s health by evaluating jail conditions and decreasing the jail population. Everyone in our county deserves to be safe, healthy and protected from this illness.</p> <p>Please meet again next week to respond to our needs. We count on you to pass policies uphold our county’s values and protect our health during this difficult time.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

General Public Comment

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General Public Comment	Jessica Jollett	Antioch	<p>Good morning. My name is Jess Jollett and I am the executive director of Lift Up Contra Costa, a countywide coalition of labor, advocacy, and community groups.</p> <p>Last week, alongside nearly 20 other organizations, we submitted a letter raising our concern for the impending outbreak of COVID-19 in our county jails and juvenile facilities. We knew that it was only a matter of time before the virus took hold in our overcrowded jails, and sadly, we were right.</p> <p>This weekend a Sheriff's deputy in the west county facility has tested positive for the virus. We have no more wiggle room - we must act now to reduce our jail population.</p> <p>There are many folks that are currently incarcerated that can safely return to the community to help mitigate the spread inside and outside the facilities. Older people, juveniles, those nearing the end of their sentence, and those being held pretrial are obvious choices for release. As you know, our own District Attorney has agreed that in order to avoid total disaster, we need to begin releasing lots of people.</p> <p>We urge you to call upon the Sheriff, DA, and Probation departments to begin immediately releasing people and to communicate with the community about their efforts. In preparation, we have been hosting weekly calls with service providers to ensure a coordinated effort of care for returning residents.</p> <p>Now is the time for swift and steady action. Use your countywide authority proactively to keep us all safe. We depend on your leadership.</p>

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General Public Comment	Liliana Gonzalez	Vallejo	<p>Good morning. My name is Liliana and I am an employee of First 5 Contra Costa.</p> <p>I write to you concerned about thousands of children, families, and child care providers facing severe financial and health risk at this moment.</p> <p>I ask you now to do even more to protect our public’s health, families and workers. We ask you to pass needed policies.</p> <p>First, we need tenant protections countywide. The Governor’s recent eviction moratorium has important gaps and is not enough. We need an eviction moratorium with a sufficient grace period to re-pay rent, halts ALL evictions, and freezes rent increases.</p> <p>No family should face losing their home because of an inability to pay rent at this time. A strong, comprehensive emergency moratorium is needed now.</p> <p>Families and child care providers also need support. Many families do not qualify for public benefits or receive paid sick leave. We need countywide financial assistance and supplies for front line workers to be protected and stop the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>Lastly, we urge you to protect the public’s health by evaluating jail conditions and decreasing the jail population. Everyone in our county deserves to be safe, healthy and protected from this illness.</p> <p>Please meet again next week to respond to our needs. We count on you to pass policies uphold our county’s values and protect our health during this difficult time.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

General Public Comment

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General Public Comment	Chipo Washington	Walnut Creek	<p>Good morning Supervisors, My name is Chipo Washington, resident of Walnut Creek and Chair of the East County Regional Group.</p> <p>We are committed to creating healthier, safer and more equitable communities for young children and families.</p> <p>I am mother of one and currently work for a local health clinic as a Registration Clerk. I am grateful to have a job that is essential to our community and is still providing my family an income.</p> <p>We are on the front lines of this COVID-19 fight and we struggle with lack of much needed supplies. We work even at the risk of infection. As our elected leaders, we ask you to provide the right equipment for us to continue to do our job for our community.</p> <p>At the same time, I am in contact with families that are struggling in this difficult time to pay their bills due to the Shelter in Place order. Families with young children and seniors with no income cannot pay rent and mortgages. We need help from our elected officials to overcome this crisis.</p> <p>I am asking you as leaders to provide a Countywide eviction and rent increase moratorium to help those most impacted by the this crisis. Provide us with a 120-day grace period to repay rent, a halt on all evictions, and a rent freeze so no family is left unsheltered.</p> <p>We also ask you to stop the spread of this disease by protecting those in jail. We ALL need protections and safety during this time.</p> <p>We ask for your leadership and to address these items as soon as possible.</p>

General Public Comment

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General Public Comment	Rocheall Pierre	Antioch	<p>Hello Mayor, Council Members and City staff. My name is Rocheall Pierre, I am a resident of Antioch and a member of the East County Regional Group.I submit this public comment to urge you to pass a moratorium on evictions and rent increase to keep Antioch families in their homes during this difficult time. We understand the Governor implemented eviction protections, unfortunately it is not enough. We are counting on you, as our local leaders to pass an ordinance that reflects our needs locally as Antioch residents. My family has been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic along with thousands of other Antioch families. My income has come to a sudden halt due to the Shelter in place order. I work as a Therapist in schools sites but due to the COVID-19 crisis and I was sadly placed on leave indefinitely and without pay. My family and I are in a very unstable and vulnerable situation and we are looking to you to ensure protect Antioch families by passing a moratorium on evictions and place a rent freeze on rent increases.We also look to you to help us get back on our feet and be able to pay back owed rent. We ask that you provide us with a 120-day grace period to pay back rent and prohibit late fees during this crisis. City representatives have the obligation to help the most neglected residents of their City to help keep the city and its residents thriving.For these reasons, I urge you to pass a moratorium on evictions and rent increase immediately.</p> <p>Thank you</p>

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General Public Comment	David Lynds	Martinez	<p>Hello, my name is David Lynds and I am a Senior Clerk at the Walnut Creek library. I want to thank the county for their dedication to public and employee safety during this unprecedented and frightening time.</p> <p>I greatly appreciate being able to support myself and my family while we shelter in place as the California governor Gavin Newsom instructed us to do.</p> <p>It means a great deal that the county stands by me and considers me a valuable and precious resource. I give 110% to my community through my work at the library and it is heartening that this hasn't gone unnoticed and unrewarded.</p> <p>I have heard news that the county is considering employee having to use accruals during this time and I urge you to reconsider if this is true. Firstly, we are not voluntarily at home or on vacation and many of us have been told we are "on call" and can be put to work at any time.</p> <p>Not everyone has a bank of accrual time to draw from and suddenly being without pay could be disastrous for themselves and their families.</p> <p>These employees may then be forced to seek work or income outside their home in order to provide for their families.</p> <p>We don't know yet if we have been in a relative calm before a worsening storm and it is vital that we don't back off our strategies or commitments to ourselves and our communities.</p> <p>Thank you for your continued support and diligence. This too has not gone unnoticed or unappreciated.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>David Lynds Library Sr Clerk</p>

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General Public Comment	Anna Nahlik	Livermore, Ca	<p>Honorable Board of Supervisors</p> <p>Request for Extension of ALL Permits due to COVID-19</p> <p>Governor Newsom issued an Executive Order that ordered all individuals to shelter at their place of residence, except for certain allowed activities.</p> <p>I would like to request Board to consider extension of ALL building permits by six months or an adequate time Board may consider appropriate. I am requesting this relief on behalf of fellow contractors, clients, friends and myself. Our work and life have been affected by COVID 19. Such relief actions have already been taken and put in place by many other jurisdictions.</p> <p>CCC Building Department still performs limited inspections, which is appreciated under circumstances. That gives opportunity to some that are ready for inspections. However, many construction supporting businesses are shut down that often limit contractor's ability to do work at the site. There are not available workers, services, and subcontractors. Furthermore, during work in progress there may be some instances when re-inspection is required. Sometimes such work may require services performed by others. Current unavailability of many services makes impossible to obtain needed services to perform work and call for inspection and permits may expire.</p> <p>Please consider extending all permits at no additional costs. Such relief action would preserve ALL permits and would help to relief economic stress and anxiety of this uncertain time.</p> <p>Sincerely Anna Nahlik</p>

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General Public Comment	Evan Kuluk	Oakland	I am a deputy public defender for Contra Costa County. I urge you to take swift and meaningful action to curb the imminent spread of coronavirus in our jails. My clients are terrified and the risk to them is very real. They are stuck in conditions where social distancing is impossible, and we now know that a deputy working in one of the jails has tested positive for the virus. Other Bay Area counties have issued blanket policies for releasing people with less than 60 days left to serve on a jail sentence or who are facing non-violent offenses, but our Sheriff has refused to do so. I ask you to direct Sheriff Livingston to conduct a blanket release of all medically vulnerable inmates, all inmates who are not charged with violent "strike" offenses pursuant to Penal Code section 667.5(c), and all inmates serving a jail sentence with 60 days or less left on their sentence. The only way we can prevent a tragedy of mass illness and death in our jails is to immediately and significantly decrease the jail population. Thank you.
General Public Comment	Kate Richardson	Oakland	I am a long-term Oakland resident and public interest lawyer. I currently serve low-income and housing insecure families in the Bay Area counties, Contra Costa County included. We are facing a global pandemic and in the face of COVID19, it is imperative that Contra Costa County join the many other California counties and states throughout the country in releasing as many people as possible from its county jails and juvenile detention facilities now. As you know, our correctional facilities are crowded and unsanitary, filled with an aging population, the majority of whom are low-income and have a history of poor health care. Many suffer from respiratory problems and heart conditions, and many would likely die if exposed to COVID19. A criminal sentence is not a death sentence. This is absolutely a time of urgency, and a time to act immediately to take life-saving measures. Maintaining current incarceration levels is dangerous, irresponsible, unacceptable, and immoral.
General Public Comment	Andrey George		I am a mother of 4 who is currently working 2 jobs, a full-time job with the County and a part-time job as an essential retail worker and I've been a Martinez resident for 22 years. I am currently working from home but I am being monitored at this time for being sick. I would like to voice my concern regarding the future of my income and my financial concerns. With the extended Shelter in Place date to May 1, can you please ensure the following continues for the County workers: 1. Although I am very grateful of the County's initial Stand-by/Wage replacement, I was hoping this could be extended for all CCC employees beyond April 6 to help stop community spread of COVID19. 2. Expand the Work from home options to help free up PPE for those who need it most. I am hoping the Board of Supervisors would heavily think about this.



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General Public Comment	Emi Young		I am a public defender in Contra Costa County and have been disappointed to see the lack of urgency in protecting our clients in the county jail. I have clients incarcerated pre-trial on non-violent offenses and others with serious underlying health conditions. Yet while the rest of the world grinds to a halt so we can protect ourselves and our neighbors, we have left those in jails in unsafe and unsanitary conditions; double celled, crowded in poorly ventilated spaces with little access to protective equipment or even hand sanitizer. Other counties have taken much more drastic action to release people including identifying those who are nearing completion of a sentence or who are incarcerated on non-violent offenses or who have other compelling reasons for release during these trying times. I would like to know why this board has not yet stepped up to ensure the health and safety of those among us who are in no position to protect themselves.
General Public Comment	Eli Miller	Berkeley	<p>I am an attorney at the Contra Costa County Public Defender's Office. I am extremely concerned by the lack of action by the BOS to encourage the release of incarcerated people from the jails in the face of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Jails all over the country are currently experiencing terrifying outbreaks that threaten the lives of staff and inmates alike. A federal prison inmate has already died of the virus. We recently learned that a deputy at West County Detention Facility has tested positive for COVID-19. The only question now is when--not if--an outbreak will occur in the Contra Costa County jails.</p> <p>Our clients are not adequately protected in the event of such an outbreak. I have been reliably informed that an inmate at WCDF was simply locked in his cell for four days after showing COVID symptoms, while the other appx 80 inmates on the module milled about in close quarters in the common areas nearby. Few deputies or inmates wear gloves or masks, and hygiene products like soap and sanitizer are available only to those who can afford to purchase them from commissary. Many of our clients have underlying health conditions and are at high risk. None of them are able to practice the hygiene and distancing measures we are so careful to follow at home. Our clients are fathers and mothers, sons and daughters. They have made mistakes, but do not deserve to die. Please consider taking action to remedy this problem immediately.</p>
General Public Comment	KL Stone	El Cerrito	I am concerned that the County Administrator, David Twa, is moving away from replacing wages or stand by pay, with employees having to use their accruals. This is unsafe for the spread of COVID19 because it would encourage sick workers to come into work sick, for fear of losing accruals. Stand by pay must be extended for all CCC employees beyond April 6 to help stop community spread of COVID19.
General Public Comment	Helen Dickey	El Cerrito	I am extremely concerned about my neighbors and friends who have lost their jobs but are still expected to pay their rent or mortgages. I hope you can do something to help them get excused from that responsibility until they are once again employed.

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General Public Comment	Nancy Hume	Pleasant Hill	<p>I am not alone in wanting people in our community protected from the ravages of the Coronavirus. This is to request you support for 1)Workers Rights: Protective gear for frontline health workers. 2)Tenant Protections: Rent increase and eviction moratorium, and renters emergency fund. 3)Stop the spread in our jails- Release incarcerated people to their families and stop the inflow to our county jails. 4)Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions.</p> <p>I would also request special measures be taken for the homeless in our community. They desperately need bathroom and washing facilities. This will not only help them, but will help keep the virus at bay in our cities.</p> <p>Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic is essential. Residents, local businesses, and community-based organizations are looking to their Board of Supervisors for action, reassurance and information. The Board of Supervisors must show strong leadership during this difficult time, and convey a sense that we are all in this together - and that includes the homeless.</p> <p>Many thanks for your support of these important measures.</p>
General Public Comment	Melody Howe Weintraub	Lafayette	<p>I am the chair of the steering committee of the Multi-faith ACTION Coalition. The members of our Coalition voted to sign two community letters you have received. We research issues and discuss them from our individual faith perspectives before we take a position. We know you do the same. Please support the most vulnerable in our community now when they need us all to stretch and find ways to care for them.</p> <p>The agenda doesn't seem to include many of the issues the community has brought to you, but it should. All residents should have the ability to protect themselves from this pandemic. Take steps now to reduce the population in the jails. Pass an emergency eviction and rent moratorium residents and small business owners.</p> <p>Archbishop Desmond Tutu said "Courage is not the absence of fear, but the ability to act despite it." Please act now to protect community members who have no way to safeguard themselves or their families in this time of crisis. Thank you.</p>
General Public Comment	Jesse B		<p>I am very concerned with the imminent threat to the safety of the jail population. Contra Costa County has done far less than other counties to reduce the population of its jails. A public health crisis in the jail is an emergency for all residents. Many low level offenders remain in custody, despite public assurances that efforts were being made to reduce the jail population. The time to act is now.</p>

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General Public Comment	William White	United Way Bay Area	<p>I am writing on behalf of United Way Bay Area to urge the Board of Supervisors to enact a countywide moratorium on evictions, a halt to rent increases, and to adopt an emergency renters assistance fund as part of the county's effort to respond to the COVID 19 outbreak. As the region reels from the economic impacts of this outbreak, our most vulnerable residents are now at even more risk of falling into poverty and experiencing homelessness. We strongly urge the Board to adopt these measures to ensure more of county's families can continue to access safe and stable housing through the duration of the shelter in place order. Thank you.</p>
General Public Comment	Edith Pastrano	Richmond	<p>I am writing to urge the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors to create a rental assistance fund AND enact a temporary moratorium on evictions and rent increases during the Coronavirus crisis for all of Contra Costa County. This moratorium should extend to ALL renters, not just those facing non-payment of rent cases, in order to truly protect people's housing during this crisis!</p> <p>While we appreciate that the Sheriff has stopped executing evictions, that is not enough. An ordinance gives MORE protections that people desperately need:            ---Prohibition on late fees            ---A grace period to repay rent after the emergency ends            ---a freeze on rent increases during this time            ---Notably, an ordinance signal to landlords that they are not to ISSUE any evictions at this time.</p> <p>Contra Costa County should join San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin and Santa Clara counties in taking action to ensure that people get needed relief and protections in this unprecedented moment in our history.</p>
General Public Comment	Nancy Ybarra	San Pablo	<p>I am writing to urge the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors to create a rental assistance fund AND enact a temporary moratorium on evictions and rent increases during the Coronavirus crisis for all of Contra Costa County. This moratorium should extend to ALL renters, not just those facing non-payment of rent cases, in order to truly protect people's housing during this crisis!</p> <p>While we appreciate that the Sheriff has stopped executing evictions, that is not enough. An ordinance gives MORE protections that people desperately need:            ---Prohibition on late fees            ---A grace period to repay rent after the emergency ends            ---a freeze on rent increases during this time            ---Notably, an ordinance signals to landlords that they are not to ISSUE any evictions at this time.</p> <p>Contra Costa County should join San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin and Santa Clara counties in taking action to ensure that people get needed relief and protections in this unprecedented moment in our history.</p>

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General Public Comment	David Sharples	Richmond	<p>I am writing to urge the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors to create a rental assistance fund AND enact a temporary moratorium on evictions and rent increases during the Coronavirus crisis for all of Contra Costa County. This moratorium should extend to ALL renters, not just those facing non-payment of rent cases, in order to truly protect people's housing during this crisis!</p> <p>While we appreciate that the Sheriff has stopped executing evictions, that is not enough. An ordinance gives MORE protections that people desperately need:            ---Prohibition on late fees            ---A grace period to repay rent after the emergency ends            ---a freeze on rent increases during this time            ---Notably, an ordinance signals to landlords that they are not to ISSUE any evictions at this time.</p> <p>Contra Costa County should join San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin and Santa Clara counties in taking action to ensure that people get needed relief and protections in this unprecedented moment in our history.</p>
General Public Comment	Blanca Retano	Richmond	<p>I am writing to urge the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors to create a rental assistance fund AND enact a temporary moratorium on evictions and rent increases during the Coronavirus crisis for all of Contra Costa County. This moratorium should extend to ALL renters, not just those facing non-payment of rent cases, in order to truly protect people's housing during this crisis!</p> <p>While we appreciate that the Sheriff has stopped executing evictions, that is not enough. An ordinance gives MORE protections that people desperately need:            ---Prohibition on late fees            ---A grace period to repay rent after the emergency ends            ---a freeze on rent increases during this time            ---Notably, an ordinance signals to landlords that they are not to ISSUE any evictions at this time.</p> <p>Contra Costa County should join San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin and Santa Clara counties in taking action to ensure that people get needed relief and protections in this unprecedented moment in our history.</p>

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General Public Comment	Charles Pape	Richmond	<p>I am writing to urge the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors to create a rental assistance fund AND enact a temporary moratorium on evictions and rent increases during the Coronavirus crisis for all of Contra Costa County. This moratorium should extend to ALL renters, not just those facing non-payment of rent cases, in order to truly protect people's housing during this crisis!</p> <p>While we appreciate that the Sheriff has stopped executing evictions, that is not enough. An ordinance gives MORE protections that people desperately need:            ---Prohibition on late fees            ---A grace period to repay rent after the emergency ends            ---a freeze on rent increases during this time            ---Notably, an ordinance signals to landlords that they are not to ISSUE any evictions at this time.</p> <p>Contra Costa County should join San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin and Santa Clara counties in taking action to ensure that people get needed relief and protections in this unprecedented moment in our history.</p>
General Public Comment	Alyssa Huff	Berkeley	<p>I ask the Board of Supervisors to protect the most vulnerable members of our community, those who are incarcerated and the public's health as a whole by working to depopulate our jails immediately. A sheriff deputy has already tested positive and failing to release those in custody immediately and in most cases, puts everyone who lives &amp; works in the jails at risk--which in turn puts our ENTIRE community at risk. It is inhumane and a public health risk not to do so.</p>
General Public Comment	Ian McGrattan		<p>I believe that the Board of Supervisors has an obligation to drastically decrease the jail population and that it has failed to meet that obligation. The court has sought and received authority from the Chief Justice to effectively close the courts. However, the court, the District Attorney, the Sheriff, and the Board of Supervisors have ignored the recommendations from the Chief Justice to release those accused of misdemeanors, those with 60 days or less to serve on a sentence, and those with health issues. There are still people languishing in the jails who are charged solely with misdemeanors, people who are charge solely with nonviolent offenses, and people who are in jail simply because they do not have the money to afford bail. This is unacceptable. Other counties have gotten the message and effectively reduced their jail populations. Contra Costa needs to follow suit. Not only does the incarceration of individuals who have not been convicted of a crime, not been given their right to due process, and who are now precluded from accessing the courts offend principles of due process, it puts the health of those individuals and society at large at risk. We need to do everything we can to stop the spread of the virus, and that means doing everything we can to minimize situations in which person to person infection can occur. We need to reduce the jail population.</p>

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General Public Comment	Paige Lewis-Villa		I have been informed that there has been talk of County Administrator David Twa moving away from replacing our wages or stand by pay and having us use accruals. This would mean many of county employees, like myself, who aren't given the option to work from home but have children or loved ones to care for, would take a huge hit financially. For some of us, not having the stream of income during the time of this pandemic means no food on the table for our families or risking the spread of this deadly virus. No stream of income may even mean losing our homes which would be so detrimental during this time. I strongly urge that David Twa not make this change that could put so many at risk. I also ask that we expand the work from home options for clerical staff. Though our days on site are limited, we are still exposing ourselves to the risk of coming in contact with the virus. Not to mention that if more options to work from home is made available to clerical staff, that frees up more personal protective equipment for those who need it most. Thank you for your time, and consideration in this matter.
General Public Comment	Flo Freasier	Concord	I have lived in contra costa county for over 45years. I am very concerned about the health and wellbeing of persons held in county jails and other locked facilities. I believe it is inhumane during this pandemic to continue to hold people in an environment where social distancing has not and cannot be implemented. I strongly urge the board of supervisors to call for a release of people from such facilities, as the surrounding counties have already done. Thank you
General Public Comment	Nicole Eiland	Oakland	I implore you to help the residents of Contra Costa County who are currently languishing in jails during this crisis. It is a public health risk for ALL of us to create a "cruise ship" situation like those that exist in our jails and juvenile halls. We must take action immediately to ensure the health of our entire community. There are children currently trapped in cells in Martinez Juvenile Hall for 19 hours a day with no school, no programming, no mental health treatment, no visits from their parents AND NO FUTURE COURT DATES. Release them to their parents immediately on ankle monitoring before a crisis happens there. ACT NOW.
General Public Comment	Douglas Leich	Danville	I urge the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors to create a rental assistance fund AND enact a temporary moratorium on evictions and rent increases for all of Contra Costa County during the Coronavirus crisis. This moratorium should extend to ALL renters, not just those facing non-payment of rent cases, in order to truly protect people's housing during this crisis!  Do the right thing and ensure a moratorium on all evictions, rent increases and foreclosures for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic!
General Public Comment	Patricia Reyes	San Ramon	I urge you to adopt and support the DA's proposal and any other efforts to reduce the county jail population. Inmates who churn through the jail are at increased risk of being infected with the coronavirus and spreading it to the larger community upon their release. There is no way to maintain in jails sanitized conditions and social distance that is demanded by our county and Governor Newsom. If individuals are not a danger to others and especially if they are being held due to not being able to pay bail they should be released.

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General Public Comment	Kaylie Simon	Oakland	<p>I was born and raised in Contra Costa County. I decided to become a public defender in Contra Costa County because I care deeply about my community. My dad is an emergency room doctor at a county hospital in the Bay Area, and he and my mom are residents of Contra Costa County. I want our county and you as our leaders, to be on the right side of justice and for you to be able to eventually look back at your response to this health crisis and feel proud of the bold decisions you made to save lives and to protect all of us. Other countries, states and counties within California are responding quickly and releasing as many people as possible to protect them and to slow the spread of Covid. Contra Costa County needs to do the same immediately. This will not only save the lives of those freed, but many others who will be impact if we allow this virus to circulate amongst the large number of people currently incarcerated in our county. Keeping people in, not only hurts them and their families, it endangers all of us. It hurts health care workers, like my dad and his brave colleagues. This is a unique experience for all of us, and I urge you to respond promptly and with the same urgency you would if your daughter, son, mother or father were incarcerated or on the front lines of our health care system.</p>
General Public Comment	Jessica Chen	Lafayette	<p>I was raised in Lafayette and attended Contra Costa public schools from elementary through high school (graduated from Acalanes HS) and am currently a public school teacher. It is imperative that the majority of people be released from correctional facilities immediately for their own safety and for the safety of all. They are not safe in correctional facilities where social distancing is not possible and the public is not safe when we risk anyone's health and anyone's life. Every single person deserves the right to live and this pandemic is fatal for many. Other countries, states and counties within California are responding quickly and releasing as many people as possible to protect them and to slow the spread of COVID-19. Contra Costa County needs to do the same immediately. We cannot afford to over burden the health care system and we cannot deny anyone the right to live.</p>
General Public Comment	Gail Armato	Concord	<p>I work for EHSD and I am currently working in the building. I am okay while we have a skeleton crew but I'm growing concerned as this virus spreads. My toddler underwent a bone marrow transplant and is immune compromised. I would really like to continue working but for the safety of Graham, I want to work from home. I hope that we can all keep our community safe by working from home and following the order. It would help to assure our vulnerable population like Graham (3) and our elderly citizens safe during this time.</p>

General Public Comment

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Your Name</u>	<u>City of Residence</u>	<u>Comments (1500 character limit)</u>
General Public Comment	Hassam Jawaid	Pinole	<p>I'm writing to urge the board to create a rental assistance fund and enact a moratorium on all evictions and rent increases while the people of Contra Costa County are impacted by Covid-19. Governor Newsome's so called eviction moratorium is far from adequate, and still allows tenants to be evicted. Evictions are a public health crisis that needs to be dealt with comprehensively, which means county-wide tenant protections, a generous grace period to repay rent, and freezes of all rent increases.</p> <p>We must also consider residents of our county which are often forgotten: those residing within our jail. When covid-19 hits West County Detention Facility, it will wreak havoc on everyone in Contra Costa County. We need our board of supervisors to audit jail conditions and release many who reside within our county jail.</p> <p>At a time when many of us are unable to work, struggling to comprehend the actions in the White House, we need our local leadership to take action to protect our friends, families, our elderly, our students, our teachers, and everyone else who resides in our community.</p> <p>I urge the board to take action in creating a rental assistance fund, passing a comprehensive moratorium on evictions which goes further than Newsom's, and ensure this moratorium applies to all renters, not just those facing non-payment of rent cases. We all need protection and support from our community during this time, and we all need you to ensure this happens.</p> <p>Sincerely, Hassam Jawaid</p>



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General Public Comment	Gwynne Gilson	Concord	<p>In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated "Shelter in Place" order,</p> <p>I ask you now to do even more than is being done so far to protect our public's health, families and workers. You have it in your power to pass policies that will better serve the local community.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We need tenant protections countywide. The Governor's recent eviction moratorium has important gaps and is not enough. We need an eviction moratorium with a sufficient grace period to re-pay rent, halts ALL evictions, and freezes rent increases. No family should face losing their home because of an inability to pay rent at this time. This crisis was sudden and beyond the control of any one individual. A strong, comprehensive emergency moratorium is needed now.</li> <li>2. Families and child care providers also need support. Many families do not qualify for public benefits or receive paid sick leave. We need countywide financial assistance and supplies for front line workers to be protected and stop the spread of COVID-19.</li> <li>3. Direct cash and material assistance to families, such as gift cards, cash, and essential items.</li> <li>4. Protect the public's health by evaluating jail conditions and decreasing the jail population. Everyone in our county deserves to be safe, healthy and protected from this illness.</li> </ol> <p>Please meet again next week to respond to our needs. We count on you to pass policies uphold our county's values and protect our health during this difficult time. Thank you.</p>
General Public Comment			<p>In Medical Records we have contact with patients coming in to pick up letters, records, etc, but we were told that we can't be supplied with N95 masks. They gave us the surgical masks which won't protect us as well. I feel we would be safer if we wore N95 masks when helping a patient. Our supply of sanitizing wipes is really low, and we especially need them to sanitize the counter where we help patients and the phone they use to call us on. Our break room is small and usually very crowded. It's really difficult to maintain a 6 foot distance.</p> <p>We were given the option to work from home, but told that we have to use our personal computers and that the county can't provide us with one. I feel we should be provided with a county issued computer if we don't feel comfortable or can't use our own computer.</p>

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General Public Comment	James Ocsh	Richmond	<p>In this time of crisis we cant allow people to fall in the cracks, it's no ones fault and the right thing to do is to close everything down so regular everyday people can be safe, but they should not be punished for safety orders. You guys are the only people who can make things right. If landlords are given an opportunity they will take advantage. By taking the pressure off, everyone will be able to make better decisions as a community.</p> <p>I am writing to urge the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors to create a rental assistance fund AND enact a temporary moratorium on evictions and rent increases during the Coronavirus crisis for all of Contra Costa County. This moratorium should extend to ALL renters, not just those facing non-payment of rent cases, in order to truly protect people's housing during this crisis!</p> <p>While we appreciate that the Sheriff has stopped executing evictions, that is not enough. An ordinance gives MORE protections that people desperately need:            ---Prohibition on late fees            ---A grace period to repay rent after the emergency ends            ---a freeze on rent increases during this time            ---Notably, an ordinance signals to landlords that they are not to ISSUE any evictions at this time.</p> <p>Contra Costa County should join San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin and Santa Clara counties in taking action to ensure that people get needed relief and protections in this unprecedented moment in our history.</p>
General Public Comment	County worker	Martinez	<p>Is hazard pay or a different option (admin leave added, remove vac cap, provide hazard pay, etc.) going to be available for front line staff at hospitals or other essential units / positions, required to still work, not allowed to work remotely?</p>
General Public Comment	Jeff Carlton	Pittsburg	<p>It has come to my attention through my union that there is consideration to have County employees use accruals while we are going through "shelter in place". I find this deeply concerning when it comes to the question of "what if I don't have enough accruals to wait out shelter in place?" How will my bills get paid? Mortgage? Child Support? Insurance? Utilities? Property Taxes? Car payments? Food? And that's just to name a few. Not to mention my wife has been laid off since March 20th. You're adding more pressure and anxiety to the people that make this county function. Not to mention you would be encouraging people who are sick to come into work and possibly spread infection even more. This situation makes it not only worse for myself but all others who have families and children to care for. I ask that you not be the county that impoverishes and sickens it's people further. Please reconsider the use of accruals. Or in the very least come up with a solution for people's expenses??</p>

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General Public Comment	Sharleen Morco-Austria	Concord	<p>It is vital that the public stay home if we are to flatten the curve of the COVID-19 outbreak and reduce the number of unnecessary illnesses and deaths. Staff who work for non-essential departments/positions need to comply with Shelter In Place orders. This date has been extended until 5/1 but it is possible this date could be extended even further as we continue to see the numbers climb. It is vital for staff to be paid Stand-by/Wage replacement beyond the initial date of 4/6 so that we can continue to care for ourselves and our families; pay for bills, rent, mortgage; and to remain in our homes during this crisis. If we are able to stay safe and maintain our health during this time, we will be in a position to return to work and restore services to our community when it is safe to do so. I have family on the frontline working as health care workers who find each day more difficult as the illness spreads. More and more people are requiring testing for COVID-19 and testing positive. PPE such as masks are in short supply. My cousin, a nurse, is restricted to using a single N95 mask for the entire duration of the day and only provided a face shield when doing drive-through testing. They do not know how much longer they will even have these kinds of supplies. The news indicates that this is the same in all hospital settings, and presumably the same in our own County hospitals. Sending unnecessary staff back to work early on 4/7 will put a strain on the already-low supply of PPE.</p>
General Public Comment	Ricky Zepeda	North Richmond	<p>It's easy for people that can work from home during these trying times, but what about the people that can't? My wife lost her job the Tuesday after the order to "shelter in place" began. I have a son at home and I'm worried because we can't pay our rent, let alone car notes, bills, and food. My wife losing her job puts a burden on our family because her income supplemented my fixed income from disability, and now we don't know what is going to happen. I am writing to urge the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors to create a rental assistance fund AND enact a temporary moratorium on evictions and rent increases during the Corona-virus crisis for all of Contra Costa County. This moratorium should extend to ALL renters, not just those facing non-payment of rent cases, in order to truly protect people's housing during this crisis!</p> <p>While we appreciate that the Sheriff has stopped executing evictions, that is not enough. An ordinance gives MORE protections that people desperately need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>---Prohibition on late fees</li> <li>---A grace period to repay rent after the emergency ends</li> <li>---a freeze on rent increases during this time</li> <li>---Notably, an ordinance signals to landlords that they are not to ISSUE any evictions at this time.</li> </ul> <p>Contra Costa County should join San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin and Santa Clara counties in taking action to ensure that people get needed relief and protections in this unprecedented moment in our history.</p>

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General Public Comment	Diana Wear	Richmond	Leadership at this moment of pandemic and catastrophe is revealing the underbelly of problems we have neglected to adequately address in our fair city and beyond: the cost of housing, feeding and sheltering those who are not housed, healthcare for our community (Doctors' Hospital), the unjustly incarcerated, immigrants in our midst, and especially healthcare and other workers aiding our people at this time. Look outside the box and extend aid to those most in need in Richmond. Immediately.
General Public Comment	Ali Saidi	Pinole	My name is Ali Saidi and we at the Contra Costa County Defenders Association have major concerns about the public health disaster waiting to happen in Contra Costa County's jails. Epidemiologists have been clear regarding the grave public safety risks posed by congregate environments and the scientific necessity of drastically reducing jail populations to protect the entire community during this pandemic. Our jails are a ticking time bomb for coronavirus, especially given the California Attorney General's finding last year that West County Detention Facility had deficient access to timely and adequate medical care for those who are imprisoned there. This is a public health crisis that scientifically necessitates an immediate and drastic reduction in our local jail population. County leaders, including DA Becton, need to do far more than facilitate a handful of releases per day if we intend to avert the brewing public health nightmare originating in our jails. It is time to come together as a community and ensure that those in our jails are not forgotten - we are ALL in this together.
General Public Comment	Amelia Hernandez	San Pablo	<p>My name is Amelia Hernandez. I am a resident of San Pablo, a mother and an advocate with the West County Regional Group.</p> <p>I'm here to ask you to pass an immediate countywide moratorium on evictions and rent increases. I'm a single mother to a 7-year-old and rent a room at a house where recently they increased my rent by \$200. I only work 3 days a week and now due to the shelter in place order my work has decreased even more. Also, due to the school closures, I have no one to watch my son while I'm at work.</p> <p>I know Richmond recently passed a moratorium on evictions and rent increases but San Pablo didn't and that's why I'm writing to you. At this moment, you are my only hope. I urge you to use your power to protect ALL tenants, including those like me who only rent a room in a house. It is during this time of crisis that we ask you to take action, to save lives, to prevent children from living on the streets.</p> <p>I can't afford to stop working. I'm a single mother. I don't qualify for unemployment benefits. I don't qualify for the Stimulus Package. I don't want to miss my rent payment but I have no other choice. I would like you, as the leaders of Contra Costa to take a humane stance and protect me and my son from living on the streets during this pandemic.</p> <p>Please set an immediate special meeting. Please pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that protects ALL of us and gives us enough time to re-pay rent. We look to you to lead us through this crisis.</p>

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General Public Comment	Blanca Colin	Concord	<p>My name is Blanca Colin, I'm a parent advocate with the Central County Regional Group sponsored by First 5 Contra Costa. I'm also a Contra Costa resident, a mother and a grandmother of an infant. We all value our children and want to raise them in the healthiest and safest environments possible. Due to the COVID-19 crisis we're all experiencing, a lot of people, including myself are out of work. We're extremely worried because we will soon not have any money to pay rent, buy food, or other necessities like diapers and formula.</p> <p>A lot of us who freelance and pay our taxes don't qualify for unemployment benefits and don't qualify for the Stimulus Package. We are all living an economic crisis along with a health crisis, but some of us are feeling it more than others.</p> <p>We are already in so much stress due to COVID-19 but now we also carry the added stress of being evicted or during this public health crisis.</p> <p>As our elected leaders, we urge you to immediately pass a countywide moratorium on ALL evictions and rent increases. We ask you to provide financial assistance and to support workers on the front line with needed supplies and gear.</p> <p>As our elected leaders, please set a special meeting immediately to take action on what's being requested today. Give ALL Contra Costa residents some peace of mind and concrete health, financial and labor protections.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

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General Public Comment	Cassidie Bates-Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano	Concord	<p>My name is Cassidie Bates, I am the Policy and Advocacy Manager at the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano and I am a resident of Walnut Creek.</p> <p>I thank the Board for informing the community and sharing needed resources during COVID-19. I'd also like to share some additional areas that we could partner in collaboration to even further assist our neighbors in a holistic manner during this unique time.</p> <p>First, we need tenant protections countywide. The Governor's recent eviction moratorium is a great start yet is not enough. We need an eviction moratorium with a sufficient grace period to re-pay rent, halts ALL evictions, and freezes rent increases. No family should face losing their home because of an inability to pay rent at this time.</p> <p>Families and child care providers also need support. Many families do not qualify for public benefits or receive paid sick leave. We need countywide financial assistance and supplies for front line workers to be protected and stop the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>The Food Bank has seen an extraordinary increase in individuals relying on us for food which exemplifies how many of our neighbors are in immediate need of assistance. We are working in partnership with the community to ensure we can provide adequate food to all those in need. Everyone in our county deserves to be safe, healthy and protected from this illness. Thank you for all of your hard work during this incredibly challenging time!</p>

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General Public Comment	Debra Ballinger	Concord	<p>My name is Debra Ballinger and I'm Executive Director of Monument Impact, based in Concord. We serve Latinx immigrants as well as Afghan and other refugees from all over the county in our many programs. In the past two weeks, we are getting so many calls about clients who have received eviction notices or fear getting evicted because they have lost their jobs. With no income they don't even have enough food for their children.</p> <p>In spite of Governor Newsom's announcement of a statewide eviction moratorium, we still the County to pass an ordinance that can work for ALL our cities to give more protections to renters than the statewide order. We are asking for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Clear instructions to landlords not to ISSUE or carry out any evictions for any type of rental</li> <li>•A Prohibition on late fees</li> <li>•A grace period to repay rent after the emergency ends—Concord's ordinance allows for 90 days to repay for every month the tenant was unable to pay.</li> <li>•A temporary freeze on rent increases during this state of emergency</li> <li>•Self-certification regarding loss of income, illness, and the like—it is too burdensome for immigrants and refugees working for themselves, small business owners, gig workers, etc. to produce the documentation the state is requiring.</li> </ul> <p>I cannot stress enough how urgent this is. Please join other counties on this moratorium just as you did on the Shelter in Place. Thank you for your leadership.</p>
General Public Comment	Dolores Ramos	Concord	<p>My name is Dolores Ramos, I'm a Contra Costa resident and the vice-chair of the Central County Regional Group.</p> <p>I'm a single mother and sole provider to my young daughter and have been extremely affected by the COVID-19 crisis. It has created a huge financial burden and anxiety among my family. My hours at work have been reduced, resulting in a severe pay cut. Now, I'm making decisions about whether I either buy food for my family or save for my rent. Many others in the community have completely lost their jobs, and not everyone qualifies for unemployment insurance. There is NO INCOME coming in for many families. I live paycheck-to-paycheck and it already was hard enough to make a living before the COVID-19 crisis. Now it's even more difficult. It is now more than ever that our children and families need your leadership, your support, and protection as our representatives.</p> <p>I'm here to ask you to schedule a special meeting and pass a countywide comprehensive moratorium on evictions and rent increases that protects ALL families immediately. Our families deserve to have a safe place to shelter in place while this last.</p> <p>I'm counting on you and your leadership to protect Contra Costa residents and workers.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

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General Public Comment	Douglas Parker	Bay Point	<p>My name is Douglas Parker and I am a constituent of district 5 and a retired CCC Employee. First of all I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the County employees for the vital services they continue to provide during this time of crisis. While many employees have been instructed to stay home and receive full pay and benefits, A large portion have been deemed essential and continue to report to work every day. As a token of appreciation to these essential employees I would ask that the Board of Supervisors consider rewarding these employees a 5% Hazardous pay differential for the remainder of the State Governors mandated shelter in place order.</p> <p>Once again thanks to all of the dedicated employees of Contra Costa County and thank you for your consideration to the request.</p>
General Public Comment	Jane Fischberg, Rubicon Programs	Richmond	<p>My name is Jane Fischberg, and I am the President and CEO of Rubicon Programs. Rubicon's mission is to transform East Bay Communities by equipping people to break the cycle of poverty. Our participants are facing severe financial and health consequences from this public health crisis and are dependent on the Board's action to protect them. We need do more to protect our public's health, families and workers. We need tenant protections countywide. The Governor's recent eviction moratorium contains gaps and is not enough. It is also confusing to tenants and will likely lead to more people losing their housing. We need an eviction moratorium that includes a sufficient grace period to re-pay rent, halts ALL evictions, and freezes rent increases. No family should face losing their home because of an inability to pay rent at this time. A strong, comprehensive emergency moratorium is needed now. This moratorium should be clear in what it does and does not do to protect tenants during this uncertain time. Families and child care providers also need support. Many families do not qualify for public benefits or receive paid sick leave. We need countywide financial assistance and supplies for front line workers to be protected and stop the spread of COVID-19. We urge you to protect the public's health by evaluating jail conditions and decreasing the jail population. Everyone in our county deserves to be safe, healthy and protected from this illness.</p>



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General Public Comment	Jima Monson	Concord	<p>My name is Jima Monson the Chair of the Central County Regional Group, a group of volunteer parent advocates that work to create healthier, safer more equitable communities for children and families. I am a single mother and a Concord resident.</p> <p>I would like to express my support for an immediate countywide moratorium on evictions and rent increases to protect families during the pandemic that we are facing.</p> <p>My daughter and I live on a single income, and we live paycheck to paycheck. Before this crisis, we already worried about food and bills on a regular basis.</p> <p>It's not my choice to be unemployed. I was forced to stop working and will not have enough money to pay my rent, like many other families. If I can't afford my rent for a few months, there will be no way for me to repay all my back rent once shelter in place is lifted. I will end up living on the streets with my daughter.</p> <p>You have the power to give relief. We need this moratorium. We need it implemented immediately and extended past the May 31st date.</p> <p>Families and childcare providers like myself also need support. Many families don't qualify for public benefits or paid sick leave. We need countywide financial assistance and supplies for front line workers to be protected and stop the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>I urge you to schedule a special meeting and pass an expedited moratorium on evictions and to also look into helping us with cash assistance so we're able to catch up on rent and bills.</p>
General Public Comment	Julia Zermeño	Concord	<p>My name is Julia Zermeño. A mother, Concord resident, and parent leader with the Central County Regional Group.</p> <p>We believe that all children and families deserve to be sheltered safely in their homes. No one should live in fear of an eviction and especially not during this public health crisis.</p> <p>Many families in my community have been severely affected by this crisis and many more will suffer if you don't pass a Countywide moratorium on evictions and rent increases. We are ALL being affected by this crisis causing uncertainty, panic, stress and a huge economic hole.</p> <p>My family lives on a single income and due to the shelter in place order we are struggling financially. We ask you to use your power as our representatives to pass a moratorium immediately that will protect my family and many others in my same situation.</p> <p>In addition to an eviction moratorium, we ask you to protect the workers risking their lives every day with this crisis. Provide them with the gear and equipment they need to be safe and to keep us safe.</p> <p>And please, offer the mothers, fathers and individuals in county jails the precaution, safety and care we all deserve. They must have access to medical care, clean conditions and safe distancing. To make this possible, we urge you to decrease the jail population.</p> <p>I hope you take action on these matters as soon as possible to benefit all of Contra Costa at this defining time. We need you to lead for those most vulnerable in this moment.</p>

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General Public Comment	Karel Villalobos	Richmond	<p>My name is Karel Villalobos. I'm a parent volunteer with the West County Regional Group, sponsored by First 5 Contra Costa. I live in Richmond.</p> <p>My family of 5 is being affected tremendously by the COVID-19 crisis. My husband is the only one that works to provide for our family, and his work has decreased significantly. We're worried about how we'll be able to afford food, bills, rent and other essentials. I'm worried because even if PG&amp;E doesn't shut down my electricity and my landlord doesn't evict me for lack of pay, we will eventually have to come up with a big lump of money to pay back what we were unable to afford during the crisis.</p> <p>My family isn't the only one that's being affected. There are thousands of others like me. We would like to stay home for our children and our health and to flatten the curve but we know that if we don't go to work there will be no money. We don't all have benefits or paid sick leave.</p> <p>I request your help with financial relief that will help us alleviate the financial burden that's falling on our shoulders.</p> <p>I also would ask that you pass a countywide moratorium on evictions and rent increases, that you support workers with needed supplies, and that you decrease the jail population. These steps are necessary to help our families feel safer.</p> <p>I ask you to take action immediately! Our mental and physical health is depending on your actions. Please be the leaders we need right now.</p>

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General Public Comment	Leydi Maldonado	San Pablo	<p>My name is Leydi Maldonado, a San Pablo resident and the chair of the West County Regional Group sponsored by First 5 Contra Costa. We are a group of parent advocates who work to create healthier, safer more equitable communities for children and families.</p> <p>I'm a single mother of 2 children and similar to other families, this is the 3rd week we're sheltered in place because of COVID-19. I am not working and not receiving any financial benefits. There are families like mine who live paycheck to paycheck and we are now really struggling and scrambling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I've seen friends and coworkers impacted by recent rent increases. We are currently unemployed. How are we supposed to pay for this? Our families are feeling very stressed and desperate and need a moratorium on rent increases and evictions so ALL families countywide can be protected.</p> <p>We're also very worried about going out to stores and clinics and seeing our essential workers with lack of proper protective gear. I ask you to provide our frontline workers with proper supplies to stop the spread of COVID-19. They are putting their life at risk for us every day and deserve to have the protection necessary for them to feel safe doing their job. We need them healthy to prevent the spread of this public health crisis even more.</p> <p>Again, please protect and care for our community by freezing evictions, rent increases and providing protection for our frontline workers.</p> <p>Thank you</p>

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General Public Comment	Lisa Morrell, Tracy Korb and Liana Morrell	Pleasant Hill	<p>My name is Lisa Morrell and I am writing on behalf of myself, my husband Tracy Korb and my 18 year old daughter Liana Morrell who all reside in Pleasant Hill.</p> <p>As residents of Contra Costa, my family and I rely on the policies you create, and the information and resources you make available to us. Thank you for your leadership, service and protection in these unprecedented times.</p> <p>I am writing to express my family's concern for our County's most vulnerable children, families, child care providers and health care workers. They need our support now more than ever! Every community member's life matters! Without our communities' collective health and well-being, our future looks bleak in Contra Costa.</p> <p>Please ensure families stay in their homes! Eviction and protection against harsh penalties for the inability to pay rent are important for everyone. We need an eviction moratorium with a sufficient grace period to re-pay rent, that halts ALL evictions, and freezes rent increases.</p> <p>Please ensure our first responders and essential workers are protected! Obtain the supplies needed to protect our workforce from contracting and spreading COVID-19.</p> <p>Many families do not qualify for public benefits or receive paid sick leave. We need countywide financial assistance to ensure that families survive this pandemic.</p> <p>My family and I urge you to be bold, take a stand and make sure that all of Contra Costa residents have the best chance to survive during this health crisis.</p>

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General Public Comment	Angel Urizar	El Sobrante	<p>My name is Mr. Urizar and I am a County clerk, I am writing you because we are in need of an extension of County Administrator David Twa's order of the Stand-by wages without using accruals. The extension is needed, in order to assist the County employees that are in need during this shelter in place extension order by the federal government, as it has been extended at least until May 1, 2020 and it is expected to possibly extend beyond this date. I am a clerk that has a need to take care of my mother during this unprecedented time and I cannot afford to go on a leave of absence. My mother is an elderly person, nearly 70 years old, and lives alone in Alameda County, and has no one but myself to take care of her needs. I currently attend to her needs to provide meals, groceries, laundry, bathing (grooming), washing dishes, paying her bills, cleaning her apartment and assist with her various medical needs and medications with her local pharmacy and doctors communications, along with other daily needs. Due to her various health conditions, she is unable to walk and take care of herself without my help. Please help us in this time of extreme need. Additionally, please help my colleagues with our need to have more Personal Protective Equipment PPE, as clerks are the front line employees that have to meet, greet and register our client once we they have been screened by us at the front of the building without face shields, gloves, more N-95 masks and without protective body gear.</p>
General Public Comment	Olivia Monroy	Concord	<p>My name is Olivia Monroy, I'm a long time Contra Costa resident, a mother and a volunteer with the Central Contra Costa Regional Group, sponsored by First 5 Contra Costa.</p> <p>I am seriously worried about this public health crisis we are going through. We are a family of 6 with 4 small children. My husband is the sole provider for our home. He is not working at the moment due to the shelter in place order. We are afraid we will be unable to pay rent due in April. We feel panicked because we have no idea how we will be able to pay our rent, bills, food and other essentials in the months to come. I can't sleep thinking about what I will do with 4 small children if we get evicted.? And like us, there are many other families worried and affected.</p> <p>As our elected leaders, I ask you to please help us by using your power and pass a comprehensive moratorium on evictions and rent increases that is inclusive of ALL Contra Costa families.</p> <p>On behalf of my family, I also ask you to include language that protects renters from "no-fault evictions. It is not humane, safe or practical to expect anyone to look for a place to live during this crisis. We need a pause on ALL evictions at this time.</p> <p>This is a pandemic nationwide and we count on you to make decisions that will benefit all of us.</p> <p>Lastly, we urge you to protect the public's health by evaluating jail conditions and decreasing the jail population. Everyone in our county deserves to be safe, healthy and protected from this illness.</p>

General Public Comment

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General Public Comment	Rachel Lorber		<p>My name is Rachel Lorber and I am a Deputy Public Defender in Contra Costa County. Like most, the COVID-19 pandemic terrifies me. I am afraid for the safety of my loved ones, the safety of my community, and the safety of my clients -- especially those who are currently confined in the jail, where the strict cleanliness and social distancing protocols recommended by health experts is an impossibility.</p> <p>Unless we reduce the number of people in our county jails and juvenile detention facilities, these places will become death traps. We do not need to look far to see this; other cities all over the country provide us with a glimpse into the grim future (Louisiana and New York are two shocking examples). An outbreak in the jails could not only infect and kill hundreds of detainees, but could result in the spread of COVID-19 to nearby communities as well. Even an outbreak contained within a jail could strain nearby hospitals having to care for infected detainees needing treatment the jail does not have the capacity to provide. Without action now, mass casualties -- of detainees, jail staff, and the general public -- are a certainty.</p> <p>In this time of crisis, I therefore urge the County to release and prevent the admission of as many individuals as possible, including those awaiting charges, those awaiting a resolution of their cases, and those already serving sentences.</p> <p>Thank you, Rachel Lorber</p>

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General Public Comment	Rocheall Pierre	Antioch	<p>My name is Rocheall Pierre; I am a resident of Antioch and a member of the East County Regional Group. I submit this public comment to urge you to pass a moratorium on evictions and rent increase to keep families in their homes during this difficult time. Even though the Governor implemented eviction protections, it is not enough. We are counting on you, as our local leaders to pass an ordinance that reflects our needs locally as residents.</p> <p>My family has been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic along with thousands of others. My income has come to a sudden halt due to the Shelter in Place Order. I work two jobs to pay my monthly bills. I work as a Therapist in schools' sites but due to the COVID-19 crisis I was sadly placed on leave indefinitely and without pay. To make ends meet, I also work for Lyft and this has also seen a decline in ridership, which has resulted in less income. My family and I are in a very unstable and vulnerable situation and we are looking to you to protect us by passing a strong moratorium on evictions and rent increases. I also ask for your help to create a financial assistance fund. There are thousands of families in need of help. We count on you as our City representatives to help us in this serious time.</p> <p>I urge you to pass a moratorium on evictions and rent increase immediately and establish a financial assistance fund.</p>

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General Public Comment	Shaina Castro-Ybona		<p>My name is Shaina Castro-Ybona and I have been a County employee since 2012. I am writing this letter in hopes to share my own personal story with you during the COVID-19 pandemic. I have worked in Foster Care since I started with CCC 8 years ago. My job is considered an essential position within Children and Family Services. As a Childrens Services Clerical Specialist, I am only 1 of 7 people in the county who do my job assisting Social Workers and Eligibility Workers. While I absolutely love my job and feel that I am great at it, one thing you do not know about me is that I am also a High Risk Immunocompromised patient with Lupus and Shrinking Lung Syndrome. Along with my health conditions, I am now also 3 months pregnant. All of these things put me at an extreme high risk for catching COVID-19. I have been self-isolating myself in my home for the last 2 weeks, and luckily have not gotten sick. I can't imagine that would be the same story if I came into work. In addition to that, both of my children ages 10 and 6 are out of school until at least May 4 and I am left with no child care. My only care provider was my mother-in-law who works in a hospital and refuses to care for them during this pandemic, to avoid bringing home this disease. This leaves me as their only provider. Because I love my job and doing what I do, I have requested that I work from home. Due to the nature of my job, I am told THIS IS NOT AN OPTION FOR ME (despite efforts to prove that i can do my job at home). Because of this, I am grateful the County agreed to pay us thru April 6. Due to my sickness, I do not have very many accruals (maybe 20 total), so the fact that the County agreed to pay us without the use of accruals has saved my family thru much more hardship. Now that the shelter-in-place order has been pushed back thru at least May 1st, I am now at a new crossroad. I am told the County may not continue to pay us. Because of this, if I am forced to stay home, I will be completely without pay (since I have almost no accruals) just trying to survive this pandemic. Can you imagine how far that will put me back in bills? I have a family to take care of. I will be forced to have to come into work just to make ends meet, and risk my own life possibly catching COVID-19 since I essentially have no immune system. This is extremely unfair when I was offering to work from home but was denied by the county since not ALL positions can work from home. During your board meeting today, I ask you to please consider employees like me who are left with their backs against a wall. I put my whole heart into my job when I am there working for you. But in times of need like this, when the entire world is facing a pandemic and our Country's Leaders are asking us to stay home, I humbly ask that you make this easier for us and continue our pay passed April 6 for all employees, without the use of accruals. I should not feel like I have to choose between my job and my life. Thank you for taking the time to read this.</p>



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General Public Comment	Tomas Espinoza	Richmond	<p>My name is Tomasa Espinoza, a Richmond resident, a mother of 3 and an advocate with the West County Regional Group.</p> <p>We believe that all children in Contra Costa should have healthy, safe and equitable communities which includes secure and safe housing.</p> <p>We ask you, as our elected leaders, to immediately pass a comprehensive moratorium on evictions and rent increases. We also urge you to provide emergency funds to help families like me that will not be able to pay back overdue rent after the shelter in place is lifted.</p> <p>Our rent is too high as it is. A lot of us are uncertain of what will happen to us if we can't pay the rent. I know there is a moratorium on evictions in Richmond, but that's not enough. My rent is \$2050 and my husband, the sole provider to our family of 5 has been told by his employer to stay at home because of COVID-19. He doesn't qualify for unemployment insurance and doesn't receive paid time off.</p> <p>In our case, if we were to pay back 3 months of back rent, we would have to pay \$6150 all at once. It is not possible for us to save if we can't work. Sadly, if we don't pay, we will end up getting evicted anyways. A lot of us will end up living on the streets. Imagine how our children feel not knowing what's going to happen to us during and after this crisis.</p> <p>I ask you to use your power and pass real solutions that will help Contra Costa families. Please pass a financial relief program, and a moratorium on evictions and rent increases now!</p>
General Public Comment	Yen Do	Oakland	<p>My name is Yen Do and I am one of two field representatives representing the brave, the committed and the hardworking social service workers and medical SW's, here at Contra Costa. Due to the COVID-19 shelter in place order, this has led a state of fear, anxiety and uncertainty; especially to those working in the front lines though all of this. I write this as a gesture to remind you, members of Board, to recognize that ALL public sector workers are unsung hero's serving the most vulnerable. And as always to work with us SEIU 1021 and with our Contra Costa County's labor union coalition partners to ensure that ALL of our workers and members are heard and well taken care of, because their lives also matter. Our labor coalition has put forth proposals we see fit in this time of chaos, please consider them and ensure that ALL WORKERS ARE PROTECTED!</p> <p>I thank you for your time &amp; for your warm hearts in considering our inputs on how to assist our workers.</p> <p>Yen L. Do, MPP SEIU 1021 Field Representative</p>

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General Public Comment	Zachary Linowitz	Richmond	My name is Zachary Linowitz and I am so proud to be a public defender in Contra Costa County, but right now, in the midst of a public health crisis unlike any I've ever lived through, I am left sorely disappointed by the County's lack of response to the growing threat of COVID-19 in our jails. Other counties, acknowledging the gravity and imminence of the threat, acted with appropriate speed and purpose. We are literally behind the curve on this one. I get it... my clients are extremely unpopular and are accused of doing bad things. But they're going to die if they remain incarcerated in a County-operated Petri dish. Seriously. Read the newspaper and look at the numbers. These deaths and serious illnesses can, and must, be avoided. Thank you for being bold and doing the right thing.
General Public Comment	Michael Caesar	Public Defenders Office	Now is the time for us to release as many human beings as possible from the county's jail system and Juvenile Hall. People in custody are at high-risk for infection, with seemingly very little being done to protect them. We have received reports of no "social distancing," limited hygiene products, and little-to-nothing being done about those individuals exposed to the infected deputy. Please release these people and take a step towards truly protecting the public.
General Public Comment	Rachel Draznin-Nagy	Oakland	On Saturday, the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court spoke via conference call to judges and attorneys across the state about COVID-19. During that call, she stated that she had received "no assurances" from the county jails that social distancing rules were being followed inside the jails. An officer at our own West County Detention Facility recently tested positive for COVID-19. Contra Costa County must implement public health measures inside the jails to protect its entire community, including releasing as many people as possible, relying on GPS monitoring when needed, and providing free sanitary supplies to inmates. Our sister counties are stepping up. Why aren't we?
General Public Comment	Rebecca Wong	Oakland	People need to get out of our jails now, today. They needed to be released weeks ago. By keeping them in, you are functionally doling out death sentences without any process. People are going to start dying in jails; this will get a lot worse before it gets better. LA has released 15.5% of their jail population (2,646 people). Santa Clara has reduced their jail population by 18.8% (604 people). New York City released 14.9% (5,447 people). Even this was not fast enough and there will still be major outbreaks coming out of jails in those counties; and we are far behind them. We need a mass release based on public health categories, now, today. This means releasing anyone who is over 60, has asthma, pneumonia, diabetes, or any other characteristics that place them at risk. It does not matter what sentence they are serving or what crime they were charged with/convicted of; we should be asking (1) what are their health/age factors, and (2) do they have a place to go upon release--those are the only two questions we need be asking in the interests of public safety, because keeping all these people in jail is currently causing more deaths than it could possibly be preventing. Jails will become the epicenter of COVID-19; two, three months from now, what will be able to say when we look back at the actions we took at the height of this crisis?

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General Public Comment	Ria Tanz Kubota	El Sobrante	Please prioritize protections for CoCo County from Covid-19 effects by first, getting protective gear including masks, gowns, and plastic droplet protection for health care workers. Please help people who have lost their income by preventing foreclosures and issuing rent amnesties, plus expanding programs like Medicaid and SNAP to allow people healthcare and food. We are in the healthcare crisis of this 100 years, a pandemic. Our county needs extra help now. Thank you for the work you do for us.
General Public Comment			PPE is not available at many county units for staff needing them. Please provide more to county workers.
General Public Comment	Asuncion Carmona	Richmond	Queridos supervisores del condado de contra costa queremos que conjelen los pagos de las hipotecas y las rentas de todos los residentes del condado de contra costa por el problema de covid-19 porque mucha jente no esta trabajand y tambien las carceles estan muy saturadas y se pueden contajiar con el covid-19 y ba a ber muchos muertos dejen ir a los que tienen ofensas menores gracias
General Public Comment	Marilyn Tims	Richmond	Rent Freeze. Seniors are suffering and struggling to make it month to month having to make choices of buying medications or become homeless. People getting a break from paying their mortgage is no better than those that pay rent. RENT FREEZE. NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO THROW A HUMAN LIFE AWAY.
General Public Comment	Margot Scheltens	Richmond	Residents need HELP/ Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions. If employers had to lay people off most were given 2 weeks pay, if that, and now they have no income. HOW can people get by? Unemployment isn't an easy or available option for all, nor does it give the full amount of a regular paycheck so many of us depend on. What can be done to support this community?
General Public Comment	Ana Gonzalez	Richmond	Señores supervisores. Les envío este mensaje. Para pedirles que los apoyen en este. Tiempo de que estamos pasando. Con este corona viros no podemos salir a trabajar. Quiero. Pedirles. Que no permitan. Que aygan desalojos. Porque adonde vamos air con mis cuatro niños si los desalojan. Y les pido ayuda austedes por que ustedes son muy buenos con nosotros. Y la comunidad y por eso solos pido. Mi nombre. Ana Gonzalez Gracias

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General Public Comment	Kristi Laughlin	Concord (work)	<p>Supervisors ,</p> <p>Please agendize a county-wide rent moratorium and rent freeze for renters and small businesses during this crisis at your earliest convenience. We need your leadership now more than ever at this unprecedented moment in our history—in the same way that the 7-Bay Area counties boldly lead the state and the Country on a shelter-in-place order, which is successfully flattening the curve and saving lives.</p> <p>Enacting an eviction moratorium and freeze on rent hikes NOW can also save lives by keeping people from losing their homes if they can't pay their rent. It will also reduce suffering and severe anxiety for thousands and thousands of people in this county.</p> <p>Four other Bay Area Counties have already taken this action. Why not Contra Costa?</p> <p>The Governor's Orders and the Sheriff's "stay of evictions" through May 31st simply do not do enough to protect struggling renters or small businesses. I urge immediate action on this. Thank you.</p>
General Public Comment	Nicolas Billings		<p>The agenda for this meeting includes an inspirational thought that concludes, "Just breathe, and have faith that everything will work out for the best." This is not the time for platitudes and inaction. Other counties in the Bay Area are taking action to reduce their crowded jails and mitigate the explosive spread of COVID-19 among inmates. It's time for the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors to step up and protect our vulnerable incarcerated members of the community who cannot engage in social distancing. We need more than faith for everything to work out for the best -- we need work.</p>
General Public Comment			<p>The Board of Supervisors must extend the Stand by pay for CCC employees. We will not be able to make it without it. Continue to pay permanent employees because we have benefits to pay and let temporary employees apply for in unemployment. You would be doing a hardship to your employees to use accruals because not everyone has enough to make for the long time we will be off. You also need to pass bill on evictions and mortgage payments to not strain or stress employees out with now having families at home we have high grocery, PGE, water, cable bills that we need to pay.</p>
General Public Comment	Christopher Crowley	Oakland	<p>These are truly extraordinary times which call for extraordinary measures. As a resident of the already hard hit Bay Area, I am calling on you to immediately come up with a plan to release members of the public who are currently incarcerated or are who are currently in pre trial proceedings to protect this population from the impending Covid-19 epidemic. There are hundreds of juveniles, non-violent offenders, and folks caught up in the legal morass that are being held in cages while the courts shutdown and we all shelter in place. Please do your part and be on the right side of history.</p>

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General Public Comment	Sara Tiras	Oakland, Ca	<p>Unprecedented times call for unprecedented actions. I urge you to stand up and protect the most vulnerable of populations at this moment - people who are incarcerated. I was born and raised in Walnut Creek and most of my extended family still lives in Contra Costa County. I was born and raised in Contra Costa County and know that the community places a deep concern on safety. I urge you to consider your responsibility in keeping everyone safe in this unique crisis. I have been inspired to learn about other countries, states and counties within California are responding quickly and releasing as many people as possible to protect them and to slow the spread of COVID. Contra Costa County needs to do the same immediately. All the scientific evidence shows that we need to stop the spread of the COVID virus completely, not just to some communities. Spreading the virus anywhere is a threat to all of us everywhere. I urge you to respond promptly and release as many people as possible who are incarcerated in Contra Costa County.</p>
General Public Comment	Glen Moniz	Richmond	<p>WE NEED RENT/MORTGAGE FORGIVENESS for these months! You all can look for a way to subsidize rent for the months of this disaster either by the State or the Government. People have been laid off and are not getting paid, how do you expect for people to pay for rent, bills, food, and other necessities once this is over?</p> <p>WE NEED :</p> <p>Workers Rights: Protective gear for front line health workers.</p> <p>Tenant Protections: Rent increase and eviction moratorium, and renters emergency fund.</p> <p>Stop the spread in our jails- Release incarcerated people to their families and stop the inflow to our county jails.</p> <p>Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions.</p> <p>Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic: Residents, local businesses, and community-based organizations are looking to their Board of Supervisors for action, reassurance and information. Whether through virtual town halls, regular written communications, or other means, the Board of Supervisors must show strong leadership during this difficult time, and convey a sense that we are all in this together.</p>

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General Public Comment	BK Williams	Richmond	<p>We need testing for Covid-19. A friend recently had to drag her sick self to Hayward for testing. What is your plan? You are empowered to use Doctor's Hospital facility. Why not use it?</p> <p>Workers Rights: Protective gear for frontline health workers.            Tenant Protections: Rent increase and eviction moratorium, and renters emergency fund.            Stop the spread in our jails- Release incarcerated people to their families and stop the inflow to our county jails.            Financial assistance: Establish a fund, or contribute to an existing fund, to support residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions.</p> <p>Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic: Residents, local businesses, and community-based organizations are looking to their Board of Supervisors for action, reassurance and information. Whether through virtual town halls, regular written communications, or other means, the Board of Supervisors must show strong leadership during this difficult time, and convey a sense that we are all in this together.</p> <p>Thank you for what you do; please advocate for our county.</p>
General Public Comment	Mark Escajeda	Lafayette	<p>We need to guarantee</p> <p>Protective gear for frontline health workers</p> <p>Rent increase and eviction moratoria</p> <p>A renters emergency fund</p> <p>Release of low-risk incarcerated or jail-bound people to their families</p> <p>Financial assistance supporting residents who need help with essential supplies, such as diapers, gas, food and prescriptions</p> <p>Consistent communication with the community about this pandemic from the Board of Supervisors</p> <p>Stay healthy,</p> <p>Mark Escajeda, MD</p>
General Public Comment	Millie Cleveland	Oakland	<p>What information have you received on how the 45 billion allocated for states and local government will be distributed? Who are the decision makers?</p>

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General Public Comment	County worker	Martinez	What is the wage replacement plan for non-essential workers , not working, not using accruals, on paid time off now? Shelter in Place was extended to May 1st, but what is the wage replacement plan without using accruals? many workers do not have accruals on the books and during Covid pandemic should not have to use their accruals if they have any on the books.
General Public Comment	Fredy Leon	Antioch	While we understand that we are living in unprecedented times, and lots of people is suffering with stress and fear. I, as member of this community and landlord would like to bring to your attention that this is affecting us too, we also need to make payments to the banks or loan companies, also need to keep paying insurance, property taxes, water service, garbage and so much more expenses, We are going to face some difficult months ahead, together we can win this battle if we help each other. I would like to ask for some restrictions on this moratorium like if people have previous evictions records they shouldn't be protected by this, and make clear for people that they need to repay any money own as soon as possible, most people thinks that with this measure they are not going to pay rent, they believe or tend to believe that the rent has been forgiven and they will be living for free in their homes. We also need to recognize that there's People who always take advantage of the situations and we need to avoid people do this and affect other People more than we are getting affected Right now. Thanks for your leadership and support .
General Public Comment	Ranjel Garcia	Antioch	Why aren't the Health centers having more people work from home? I am an "essential" worker that provides essential tasks. However given the appropriate access I could work from home. This has not been given to many workers as an option. Can we start making it a MUST to identify these essential workers and limit their exposure while also limiting the use of PPE for front line staff to use instead. I want to work and want to slow the curve, this cannot be done without the cooperation of Management. Thank you for your time.