

D.5 COVID-19 Update

#	Agenda Item	Your Name	Comments (1500 character limit)
1	D.5 Update on COVID-19	Stephanie	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I own a dog grooming business in Oakley, CA. While I have seen other salons remain open in contra costa county, I closed down during the stay at home order because I was originally told we are considered non essential.</p> <p>While I agree that we are non essential in short term, dogs without grooming for a length of time can cause them serious health issues that could have been avoided with maintenance of skin, coat, and nails.</p> <p>The main reason is the dog's health, yet It is also tough seeing the big box pet stores staying open and continue to groom dogs while other small business grooming salons are suffering.</p> <p>My question is do we have to stay closed?</p> <p>The way I have always ran my salon was grooming one customers dog at a time by appointment only. I can and would follow strict guidelines needed during this time.</p> <p>I could have no contact with customers by not allowing any one inside the salon. My business is one at low risk being that we have very low contact with others, and would have no problem with a 6ft distance. The dogs are suffering with matted coats. nails that are getting way too long. I do understand vets can take care of some things but most are only taking in emergency cases. It's upsetting to let a dog get neglected This in turn costing them tons in vet bills that could have been avoided. Please consider us essential as we have been closed too long at this point to where the dogs need us.</p>
2	D.5 Update on COVID-19	Marc Joffe	<p>The level of information Contra Costa County provides on its COVID-19 dashboard is insufficient compared to best practice counties such as Marin, Santa Clara, San Mateo, Orange and San Diego. Specifically, you do not break down deaths by age group, race, sex or underlying condition. This makes it difficult for people in different demographics to assess their mortality risk. Further, Contra Costa County lags other counties outside California in disclosing deaths in nursing homes and assisted living facilities - portraying a lack of transparency called out in a recent East Bay Times op-ed.</p> <p>More data would likely confirm the reality we have seen in other states and countries, which is that the COVID-19 mortality rate among healthy individuals under fifty is virtually nil. This observation should trigger a conversation at the Board of Supervisors about exempting those in this demographic from the shelter at home order, especially if they don't share a residence with more vulnerable individuals.</p> <p>While the Board's shelter-at-home policy has undoubtedly reduced COVID-19 deaths and hospitalizations, it is also devastating small businesses around the county, many of which will not be able to reopen when the lockdown ends. As a result, many jobs are being permanently lost. Unemployment results in suicide, depression and spousal abuse – and is thus, like the disease itself, a public health concern.</p> <p>Please relax the lockdown.</p>

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3	D.5 Update on COVID-19	Andy	<p>I am perplexed by Governor Newsome's and other municipalities who continue to say the Science is behind your decisions. When he announces numbers everyday he highlights two variables, % increase of cases and total deaths, but isn't it logical as we ramp up testing the numbers will go up? Coincidentally the death rate % is going down. We originally were told to Shelter in place to save lives because our healthcare system would be overloaded, but in the Bay Area hospitals are not over loaded, quite the opposite Dr's and supplies are being given to other states and non essential healthcare workers are seeing job reductions. State of CA ICU's are at around 20%-25% capacity? We were told the death rate would be 2%+ plus Dr.'s at Stanford, Santa Clara and now LA county are finding the mortality rate below .05%. Please explain this strategy is better than herding the virus before next flu season? Waiting 12-18 months for a vaccine is not an option and most vaccines only have 25% success rate.</p>