

Town Council

Michelle DeCausmaker, Mayor  
Kate Tasem  
Mercedes Garcia  
Bill Beckwith  
Jeff McFall



City Administrator  
Karl Drexel, SDA

City Clerk  
Paula Basteyns

March 2020

Dear Valued Business,

On March 13, 2020, United States President Donald Trump declared the ongoing Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic of enough severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states.

On March 19, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued an emergency statewide order to 'stay at home' as COVID-19 cases soared. (Executive Order N-33-20). Specifically, the California State Public Health Officer and Director of the California Department of Public Health is ordering all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, except as needed to maintain the continuity of operations of federal critical infrastructure sectors, critical government services, schools, construction, and childcare related to critical infrastructure. Violation of the order is a crime punishable as a misdemeanor and up to \$1,000 fine.

Closure of schools and businesses and restricting residents to their homes are critical steps in reducing the exponential growth of the virus, which will overwhelm our medical resources in Siskiyou County and place many at great risk. Each of us have the obligation to come together and combat this terrible pandemic and I know that Fort Jones will do just that, to heed this call to action. Schools in Fort Jones and most businesses are obeying this call.

Businesses deemed essential by the Governor's order, which are core to the functioning of our community, such as banks, grocery stores, gas stations, and construction, should remain open, while other businesses must shut down and allow their workers to stay at home. Restaurants are being asked to provide food to go if they can and are equipped to do so. This, hopefully, is a temporary measure, and it is now required by law. If we are not successful, it is highly likely that more restrictive measures will be implemented, which will have more significant impacts on businesses and our economy. Our community needs your help to stem this terrible virus.

Please work with us to protect the health and welfare of our community.

If you have any questions or need additional information, we will continue to update our website at <https://fortjonesca.org/COVID-19> with resources for businesses.

Karl Drexel  
City Administrator