

Baumb, Nelly

From: Gail McFall <gail.mcfall@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 2:49 PM
To: Council, City
Cc: Jim McFall
Subject: Supporting Our Local Restaurants During This Time

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Dear Mayor Fine and Council Members,

We write this in support of the City's efforts to facilitate the reopening of local small businesses, including local restaurants in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

We are fortunate to have a plethora of great local restaurants to enjoy daily. The current crisis makes it clear how important it is to support them now. We have watched as businesses do their best to serve our community under the stay-at-home orders and continue to support them by purchasing meals-to-go.

As the community begins to reopen, we hope that the City can find ways to do so safely, including possible options such as: closing off or limiting automobile traffic on streets so that pedestrians and restaurants have adequate space for walking and seating to ensure safety (i.e. adequate social distancing) and allow increased outdoor seating for restaurants in order to support their continued viability. We would encourage such options as a means to support our amazing establishments in Palo Alto.

We look forward to the full reopening of our community at the appropriate time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gail & Jim McFall
Escobita Avenue, Palo Alto

Gail & Jim McFall

Baumb, Nelly

From: David Page <dalpage5@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 2:52 PM
To: Council, City; City Mgr
Subject: tele-commute planning and promotion

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Dear City Council and City Manager,

I've spoken with you at Council meetings during the past few weeks, and have sent letters, asking that you to make permanent something which could dramatically reduce future (lethal) pollution, **if** you could help influence local businesses to follow your lead. To do so would cost nearly nothing, because you're already doing it - having as many employees as possible work from home.

While I heard some supportive comments from Council members, no official acts were taken. I'd like to contrast this with what the Santa Clara Board of Supervisors voted in favor of earlier today:

Agenda Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Clara May 5, 2020 Page 4 of 14 14. Consider recommendations relating to a telecommuting benefits analysis and framework for employees of the region, both public and private, during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. (Chavez) (ID# 101266) (COVID-19)

Possible action:

- a. Approve referral to Administration to include an analysis and recommendations relating to expanded telecommuting of County employees post-COVID-19.*
- b. Approve referral to Administration to report to the Board of Supervisors on June 23, 2020 relating to which County departments have been the most successful with telecommuting practices, and a workplan 1) to analyze and expand telecommuting for employees, and 2) to develop revisions to guidelines to track and monitor the benefits, measures of success, and costs of telecommuting.*
- c. Approve referral to Administration to request the Office of Sustainability report to the Board of Supervisors on June 23, 2020 with a framework to estimate the potential impacts of increased telecommuting on the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other harmful climate impacts.*
- d. Approve referral to Administration to collaborate with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) on a Clean Air Telecommute Challenge for large employers with 50 or more employees, as defined by the BAAQMD Commuter Benefits Program, to help improve the Bay Area's air quality.*
- e. Approve referral to Administration to collaborate with and support efforts by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), Caltrain, other government entities, and the Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG) to expand telecommuting options and to help transition public and private employees who are unable to telecommute to return to their respective workplaces with the support of public transportation.*

I appreciate you each are working many hours trying to keep up with the Covid-19 crisis, as well as the budget/recession. Unfortunately, planning to make tele-commuting permanent, *before the shut-down ends*, must be done concurrently with these other stressors, or employees will head back to their commute cars.

With gratitude for your forthright deliberations, I'd like to ask again that you implement something similar to that which was approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The Mercury did [an article](#) about this, including quotes from Carl Guardino, who spoke at the Board meeting this morning.

Thank you again,
David Page

ps - from today's news: [Unsuitable for 'human life to flourish': Up to 3B will live in extreme heat by 2070, study warns](#)

Baumb, Nelly

From: Andrea Barnes <andrea.barneshome@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 10:13 PM
To: Council, City; ParkRec Commission
Subject: Tennis Court Use

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Hello,

I am reaching out to our City Council and Park and Recreation Commissioners in hopes that you can help me resolve a situation that I believe needs a second look.

I have been a Palo Alto resident for many years. For the last seven years, since my husband passed away, I have lived alone. Throughout our shelter in place I have abided by every rule and have done all I can to be someone contributing to flattening the curve. I was very pleased to read last night that the city tennis courts were opening this week. I was even more pleased to walk down to the courts at Dartmouth and College in my neighborhood this afternoon and see that they were already unlocked. Then I read the sign..."Only immediate family residing in the same household" may play. I was heartbroken. This means everyone who, like me, lives alone, is shut out of yet another activity.

I don't just play tennis. I've worked in tennis wearing a variety of hats over many years. I am the Executive Director of the United States Professional Tennis Association, Northern California Division (the preeminent American tennis teaching professional certifying and educational organization). I also serve on National and Northern California committees, and work as a Lead Faculty coach for the United States Tennis Association, the sport's national governing body. Finally, I am Co-President of the National Women's Tennis Organization. I was also the Tennis Director at the Stanford Campus Recreation Association on campus for 35 years. In addition, I am a lifelong competitive player, having been a Stanford varsity player back in the 70s and continue to compete in adult regional and national championship events.

Over the course of the pandemic I've been involved in many work meetings discussing how to make tennis safe. The USTA, working with the USPTA and others, put together a great set of guidelines.

There are several key points which assure that the virus is not transmitted:

- 1) Play singles only
- 2) Maintain social distance between you and your opponent of at least 6 feet
- 3) Follow this ball handling procedure: Open two cans of tennis balls that do not share the same number on the ball. Take one set of numbered balls, and have your playing partner take a set of balls from the other can. Proceed with play, making sure to pick up your set of numbered balls only. Should a ball with the other number wind up on your side of the court, do not touch the ball with your hands. Use your racquet head or feet to advance the ball to the other side of the court. Adherence to these guidelines allows **any** two players to play together as they are never touching the same balls.

Their full recommendations are here: <https://www.uspta.com/static/ustacovidplayingtennissafely-players.pdf>

Note that the USTA guidelines allow playing with others at low risk, not just those in your household.

I urge you to read and adopt these guidelines which would allow people to safely play with those outside of their household.

Please consider that there is a real mental health risk in isolating those of us who live alone. Here is a safe opportunity to let us get out and be with our friends, or family members who are not in our household, that is safe and healthy. I look forward to being back on the court, as do many others in my position.

Thanks so much for consideration. I look forward to hearing your perspective on this.

Andrea Barnes

Executive Director, USPTA NorCal
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Redacted
Palo Alto CA 94306



Baumb, Nelly

From: Barry Ulrick <barryulrick@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 12:02 AM
To: Council, City
Subject: No Mask Required at Parks

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This past Sunday there were dozens and dozens of people socializing at Heritage Park and none of them were wearing face coverings. It appeared that groups stuck together so there was no interaction between different households. I highly doubt that the local police will be forcing these people to put on masks if the ordinance is enacted because it's clear the mask is unnecessary except when entering businesses. Palo Alto City Council grandstanding once again while they look the other way as the city coffers are being drained by their inept governance.

Baumb, Nelly

From: D Martell <dmpaloalto@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 10:39 AM
To: Shikada, Ed
Cc: Council, City; Kleinberg, Judy; Bill Johnson; Jay Thorwaldson; Dave Price
Subject: Another shop closes

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Edward K. Shikada
Palo Alto City Manager

Dear Ed Shikada:

Downtown Walgreens, 300 University Avenue, closes June 9. Can't pay the rent.

As a student, I remember, as late as mid-'70s, I could walk down the middle of University Avenue, 8:00 pm on a Friday or Saturday night, not seeing a single automobile or person. The only shops open were Mac's Smoke Shop, Stanford Theatre, and Walgreens. In my books, Walgreens has become an historical sight.

Can you reach out to Walgreens' landlord for rent reduction during the pandemic?

Very truly,
-Danielle

Danielle Martell
Palo Alto City Council Candidate 2016 & 2005
dmPaloAlto@gmail.com