



CITY OF FULLERTON

City Council Office

Mayor, Jennifer Fitzgerald
Mayor Pro Tem, Jan M. Flory
Jesus J. Silva
Bruce Whitaker
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June 2, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the City of Fullerton, thank you for your leadership and efforts to protect and support Californians during this unprecedented public health crisis. Cities remain on the front-line helping residents stay safe in their homes, delivering emergency services, and supporting local businesses and community organizations. However, as emergency costs continue to grow, city revenues to fund local services are plummeting. COVID-19 is having devastating impacts on city budgets and services statewide.

Based on recent financial analysis, California cities are projecting a nearly \$7 billion general revenue shortfall over the next two fiscal years. This shortfall will grow by billions of dollars if stay-at-home orders to protect public health extend into the summer months and beyond. The City of Fullerton has already laid off more than 150 employees and is expecting a potential revenue loss of approximately \$3 million due to COVID-19 this fiscal year and up to \$9 million next fiscal year. The City projects that these shortfalls will also impact our core city services, including police, fire service, emergency management, and planning and housing.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, the City has taken swift action to protect and serve our community. The necessary measures our city has taken are costly, yet necessary. The City looks forward to our continued partnership with the state in saving lives, protecting our communities, and ultimately recovering from this crisis. To that end, the City is requesting you to support the following actions:

- Establish at least a \$7 billion city revenue stabilization fund for direct aid to all cities to address the general revenue shortfall over the next two fiscal years;
- Allocate a share of the State's \$8.4 billion CARES Act funding for cities with populations under 500,000 to support COVID-19 expenses; and
- Create a COVID-19 financing vehicle that all cities can access to support immediate cash flow needs.

I appreciate your consideration of these requests and look forward to further discussing in the coming days how we can continue to best protect Californians and reopen our economy. Thank you again for your leadership and partnership during these uncertain times.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Fitzgerald
Mayor

cc: Senator Ling Ling Chang
Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva
Fullerton City Council
Ken Domer, City Manager

THE EDUCATION COMMUNITY

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