

**MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY / SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
MONROVIA OLD TOWN ADVISORY BOARD
Videoconference
THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020**

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 and guidance from the California Department of Public Health on gatherings, members of the public were encouraged to participate in the meeting remotely. Public comment was accepted by email to City Clerk Alice D. Atkins prior to 8:30 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

CONVENE: Chair Diane Balsamo convened the Special Meeting of the Monrovia Old Town Advisory Board on Thursday, July 2, 2020, at 9:32 a.m. via teleconference. In attendance, participating via video conference, were Mayor Tom Adams; City Manager Dylan Feik; City Clerk Alice D. Atkins; Community Services Director, Tina Cherry; and Administrative Assistance, Adriana Marin.

ROLL CALL: In attendance were Boardmembers Ricardo Jurado, Kristin Miller, Dominique Strivings, Vice-Chair Alex Reyes, and Chair Diane Balsamo. All members participated via video conference pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Donna Baker, Monrovia resident, commented on street closure and concerns related to parking and Street Fair reopening.
2. Joey, The Diplomat, commented on designating parking space for pick up and committee to talk to merchants on extending parking spaces.
3. Jillian Gomez, Monrovia resident, spoke in support of closing down Myrtle for open seating.
4. Mr. Bower, Monrovia resident, commented on making Myrtle a one-way street and temporary parking spaces.
5. Joe Borrelli, Bella Sera, commented on expanding parking, designated parking for pick up, and dine in procedures.

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

The City Clerk provided a summary of the public comment input received prior to the 8:30 a.m. deadline. The full text of comments was provided to all members of the Monrovia Old Town Advisory Board prior to the meeting.

1. Jennifer and Christopher Grattan, The Peach Café, proposed the city establish an outdoor open-air communal dining area in parking lot.
2. Adrianna Fernandez, Monrovia resident, expressed concern with the Farmer's Market reopening.
3. Gina Fanara, CIBA Real Estate, proposed street closure to allow restaurants to extend patio area and close street parking to allow limited access to vehicles.
4. Raj, Old Town Pizza, commented on enforcing stricter guidelines.
5. Edith Repp, Monrovia resident, supports street closures and outdoor dining.

6. David Bower, Monrovia resident, commented on one-way streets, parking spaces for pickup, and access to sidewalk for dining.
7. Genevieve Sheehan, Monrovia, supports street closure and expanded outdoor dining.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

Community Services Director Tina Cherry thanked the board and merchants for feedback. Ms. Cherry commented on feedback received from merchants and the community related to street closures including, extending use of the right-of-way, expand seating into parking spots in front of businesses, and looking to add temporary parking designated for pick up. Staff will be providing additional feedback in the coming weeks.

DISCUSSION: Discussion followed on the Governor Newsom's Revised Order Restricting Indoor Dining at Restaurants.

Boardmember Jurado commented on costs, image presented as a city, and concern for the safety of employees and customers. Suggested looking at it as a month out plan; not a good idea at this time.

Boardmember Miller expressed her support for restaurants and interest in hearing from staff on ideas, costs, and implementation. Also commented on the use of K-rails, outreach, and parking enforcement.

Boardmember Strivings commented on consideration of all public offices in Old Town, designating parking for curbside pick-up and a community survey.

Chair Balsamo commented on closing side streets, short-term parking for curbside pickup, and outreach to restaurants not adhering to guidelines. Chair Balsamo shared comments from Joe Borrelli, Bella Sera, to extend out to Lemon Court; opposes closing Myrtle Avenue; ten-minute parking for pickup; city enforcement; and expanding breezeways.

Vice-Chair Reyes commented on closure of side streets; dining limited to streets; consensus with non-restaurant businesses; platform costs; and is open to street dining and other ideas.

City Manager Dylan Feik commented on the County's reopening protocols and burden on local businesses and expressed staff support in working with merchants to expand dining, outreach, and open to ideas related to private property, breezeways, expanded sidewalks, and limited space dining.

Chester Lawn, Monrovia resident, commented on platform and assistance from the city.

Jan Jenmaster, Monrovia resident, commented on the overhead for businesses and finding creative ways to assist businesses through platforms and community meetings.

Sari Canales, Monrovia Chamber of Commerce, expressed support to merchants and retail shops.

ADJOURNMENT: The special meeting of the Monrovia Old Town Advisory Board was adjourned at 10:39 a.m.