

**From:**  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Chamber report  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 1, 2020 4:26:48 PM

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Good evening,

The chamber continues to advocate for the business community. Last week, I spoke during public comment at the LA County Supervisors meeting opposing the new restrictions. We continue to support small businesses and promote Small Business Season Shop Monrovia First.

Thank you to City Manager, Dylan, for attending the Networking breakfast this morning. It was a great surprise and our attendees enjoyed the conversation.

Bill continues to bring in new members and ended the month with bringing in Chick Fil-A.

Thank you to Mayor Tom for the virtual community prayer breakfast.

Save the date January 29th, 2021 for the membership and awards event.

#Monrovia Strong

Sent from my iPhone

**From:**  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Public Input 12-01-2020  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 1, 2020 5:07:50 PM

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This is a post-mortem perspective on Monrovia's ill-fated involvement with Proposition 20. The appointment of an ad-hoc diversity committee was a good move. There was a diversity deficit when the council unanimously endorsed an initiative that was 62 per cent rejected. If Monrovia goes off on another tangent maybe the committee can get in the way and block another boondoggle.

A correction on the consultant compensation: The Take Back Our Community Coalition collected 54 thousand dollars from 36 cities. Monrovia signed two 25 thousand dollar contracts. I thought those were separate payments but they were not. The Take Back Our Community money financed the contracts so my inflated estimate was about double the correct amount.

If the consultant were still on the payroll it would be interesting to hear his excuse why the prop flopped. As a supporter of California's criminal justice reforms, it was my duty to devise a devastating dialectic to discredit and defeat the divisive development, without compensation. Not to gloat, I will end on that note.

**From:**  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Re: 946 Crescent Drive - Variance Approvals  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 25, 2020 9:23:48 AM

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Dear City Council Members,

My name is James Moreland. I've lived at 317 N. Madison Ave, Monrovia for 25 years. Our house is 3 houses North of 946 Crescent Drive and we can see the raised deck from our deck since our property is at a higher elevation. I agree with the Variances approved by the Planning Commission. There is a pool in the back yard and a neighbor's pool next store to the North. The raised deck has provided privacy between the neighbor to the North and shade from the sun which seems to have worked out well for decades.

Thank you,

James Moreland

Cell 626-523-1490

Jim.moreland@capitolsteel.com

**From:**  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Note to City Council for the next Hearing on LA County Public Health Secession  
**Date:** Thursday, November 26, 2020 11:46:29 AM

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Hello,

My name is Lauren Wake and I have been a resident of Monrovia for the 31 years I have been alive. I have great concerns regarding the city's recent treatment of the COVID-19 pandemic and the proposal to remove our city from the umbrella of the LA County Public Health services. I hope that city council will consider my thoughts in making their wildly important decision that has wider implications than just the current crisis.

I find it absolutely appalling that our mayor and city council continue to willfully ignore and rebut the county and statewide mask mandates and tell MPD not to enforce people wearing face coverings in public by saying "there is no city wide mandate." 1) Why not? Why does the city of Monrovia think that it knows more than the LA County Public Health and California Public Health officials who have been researching this deadly disease for close to a year and have determined what is needed to keep our community safe? 2) Why do the mayor and city council think that Monrovia is exempt from county and state level mandates? Our infection rate may currently be lower, but that does not mean that it won't go up. And it is almost certain to go up if we do not follow the widely accepted public health protocols, especially the simple ones of wearing masks.

This inaction alone leads me to ask the question: do our elected officials not fundamentally understand the levels of government and how laws and legislation work? The actions taken and proposed by the mayor and city council create, at the very least, a feeling like they are cavalier with our community's health and safety. At the worst it indicates that they are wholly inadequate at governance and underqualified to be doing their jobs. As a young Monrovia who has lived here her entire life, this is disturbing and troubling on a deep level. I would ask that AT THE VERY LEAST the city begin enforcing mask mandates, but also additionally implore the city to not secede from the umbrella of LA County Health, just because a few people don't agree with the restrictions imposed. I care about our small businesses as well, which is why I take out food from them regularly and tip generously.

My health, my family's health, and the health of this community matter more than people being able to eat at a restaurant for the next three weeks.

Thank you,  
Lauren Wake

**From:**  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Not time to leave LA Public Health  
**Date:** Saturday, November 28, 2020 10:23:42 PM

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Esteemed fellow Monrovians,

I am all in favor of the letter that the town sent to the LA Public Health dept regarding restaurants. However, I am not in favor of leaving their oversight and attempting to go it on our own. It is akin to a child who doesn't like parental rules deciding to run away from home, only to realize, ultimately, that (s)he must either return to the fold or face homelessness. We do not have the financial means or the clinical expertise to handle the current pandemic, vaccine distribution, or other health and safety issues that are needed well beyond the pandemic. Clean spaces, healthy food, and normal health inspections are necessary, and without this oversight we will lose confidence in the very restaurants we are trying to protect.

Yes, I feel the current rulings are a bit heavy handed. I have felt comfortable eating at a few of our more careful restaurants where social distancing is enforced, tables are far apart, outdoors, and waitstaff wear masks.

On the other hand, our fellow citizens are a bit too cavalier, and maybe our enforcement methods have been a bit too relaxed. I have walked the streets on Friday night only to feel a bit uncomfortable with the maskless crowds who gather in the open areas. The area in front of Ikonics did not seem to fill guidelines of offering enough space for those to pass on the street.

Let us spend our energy, and our limited funds, finding ways to help our local businesses, including our restaurants. In a previous email, I suggested we as a town gather together to purchase large takeouts to deliver to agencies servicing those with food insecurity.

Let us too, walk the talk and enforce facial coverings and social distancing.

Best regards,  
Monrovia Citizen  
Catherine Gallagher.

**From:** [Office of Public Information](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment  
**Date:** Monday, November 30, 2020 8:18:57 AM

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Good morning, Alice –

Please see the public comment below. If I can provide additional information, please let me know.

Thank you!  
Jackie

**From:** Bonnie Newby [mailto:gbnewby66@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 24, 2020 7:43 PM  
**To:** Office of Public Information <pio@ci.monrovia.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Re: City Manager's Update: COVID-19 Update

Good Evening,

Thank you for your response. Yes, my husband and I would like our feedback to be submitted as public comment. We love this community and do not want to see any more businesses fail. We are facing very difficult times.

Respectfully yours,

The Newby's

On Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 7:10 PM Office of Public Information <[pio@ci.monrovia.ca.us](mailto:pio@ci.monrovia.ca.us)> wrote:

Hello,

Thank you for your response. Would you like your feedback to be officially submitted as public comment for the City Council meeting on December 1?

Kind regards,  
Jackie

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**From:** Bonnie Newby [mailto:[gbnewby66@gmail.com](mailto:gbnewby66@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 24, 2020 5:51 PM  
**To:** Office of Public Information <[pio@ci.monrovia.ca.us](mailto:pio@ci.monrovia.ca.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: City Manager's Update: COVID-19 Update

City Council,

PLEASE do the right thing and vote to allow restaurants to remain open for outdoor dining. This will affect many business owners who need to keep their businesses from closing and their employees who need to pay rent, keep food on the table for their families, etc. Monrovia is a great community, we have responsible citizens, and we want to see it survive.

Respectfully

The Newby's

On Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 5:21 PM City of Monrovia <[pio@ci.monrovia.ca.us](mailto:pio@ci.monrovia.ca.us)> wrote:



**From:**  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Reports of City Council members RCC-1 (c) Discussion to Alternatives to Los Angeles County Health Department  
**Date:** Monday, November 30, 2020 9:20:00 AM

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Good Evening Mayor Adams and Monrovia Council,

I am writing this email in regards to the agenda item on Alternatives to the Los Angeles County Public Health Department. The creation of Public Health Department or contracting services with another city that has a Public Health Department is an extremely large and costly task. There are several things that should be considered before tackling such a task.

#### **I. Fiscal Impact to the City**

- The development of a Public Health Department would result in additional financial debt for the city. In an article written by the San Gabriel Valley Tribune in 2019, it noted that the City of Monrovia was listed as one of cities in California in bad financial shape for facing high risk financial challenge due to debt burden, general fund reserves, and pension obligations. In fact, Mayor Adams was quoted as saying that part of our debt was due to borrowing \$51.7 million for the much needed infrastructure improvements. Has this debt been resolved or do we still need to pay it back? How does the city propose to fund this proposal, where would the revenue come from to fund such a project? Also, if the City were to contract with another city's Public Health Department, and that city encounters budget cuts to their city department, who's would be cut first, that city or the contracted city?

#### **II. Los Angeles County Public Health previous report card**

- I am not aware of any issues that the City has had with the LA County Public Health Department before the Pandemic occurred. My main concern is that this discussion for alternatives to the LA County Public Health Department is only coming into view because of one factor--a 3 week restaurant closure due to the pandemic that was implemented by LA's Public Health Department. The discussion of creating such a department or contracting with another city for these services should be based on more than just one particular reason. In addition to environmental health issues such as restaurant inspections, Public Health Departments deal with other areas such as Clinical Services, Immunizations, HIV, STD, Family Planning, Public Health Laboratory, Homeless Services and many other areas. Has the City Council done any research or studies that they can provide to the public on what the development of a Public Health Department entails?

#### **III Other needs for the city and its citizens**

- I do understand the need to support small businesses in the city. It is a very important issue, however, there are other issues that have plagued the city and its residents before the pandemic, such as Homelessness, Crime, Affordable Housing. These items still need to be addressed for citizens that live in Monrovia. How will you propose to address these issues with the focus, funding and discussion of a possible alternative to LA County Public Health Department now becoming the council focal point?

Thank you for addressing my concerns.

Sincerely,  
Angela Shaw, MPA

**From:** [Melissa Taylor](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment To be Read Aloud  
**Date:** Monday, November 30, 2020 9:45:46 AM

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Good Evening City Council Members, Mayor Adams, and Mr. Feik:

As we know, the spread of coronavirus is out of control. I understand people's Covid fatigue but continuing to only educate the public doesn't seem to be the answer. It is irresponsible of government officials to continue to simply educate about wearing a mask and keeping distance without actually enforcing any of the statewide guidelines. Nothing is stopping people from gathering because they know there are no repercussions. We are beyond education. While Monrovia's deaths and coronavirus cases seem "not that bad" the positivity rate in L.A. County is 5.5% and we cannot think that Monrovia is somehow beating the odds even though we are doing the same things as everyone else. Of the 981 cases (reported last week), how many have spread to others? How many deaths happened elsewhere, not in Monrovia, but came from Monrovia? How many gatherings have led to a positive test? How many passed to a coworker whose death count doesn't factor into Monrovia's overall count?

This is not a situation in which we should stay the course. It is time for swift action. If we continue to only educate and tell people to wear a mask without actually doing anything, there won't be any hospital beds left. We are selfishly overworking our essential workers. It goes beyond mask wearing, people need to stay at home. Our leaders need to lead.

I feel for our small businesses, because it's not just our restaurants that are suffering it is small shops as well. But we cannot ignore statewide mandates in order to make sure people eat out at restaurants. Besides that: I have heard from wait staff at restaurants who are fearful of coming to work and catching the virus from a customer. It is not just about the bottom line it is also about caring for the people in our community.

It is also incredibly naive to think that a city of 40,000 people could successfully leave the LA County Public Health Dept in order to keep restaurants open. Where will we fund such an organization? A Public Health Dept is more than just keeping restaurants open. There are other areas to consider such as environmental, immunization, and TB control to name a few. It is also very costly. The city has not had to worry about Public Health issues, and once Monrovia has their own public health system, we are on our own and the long lasting effects will be costly. This is a very reactionary response as opposed to being proactive, the simple truth is this: we don't get economic stability back until we get the virus under control. Leaving restaurants open doesn't get us there. That said, restaurant and business owners shouldn't have to fund the recovery. That is the job of the federal government. Our government officials at every level should be reaching out to work with our federal leaders. I encourage you to work with our federal leaders to help get us on the right track.

Sincerely,

Melissa Taylor



**From:**  
**To:** [Alice Atkins](#)  
**Subject:** Re: More Corrections: Monrovia City Council Special and Regular Meetings - Tuesday, December 1, 2020  
**Date:** Monday, November 30, 2020 12:31:05 PM

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Pasadena is open why not Monrovia Business in Monrovia are going broke do the right thing  
open up are city  
Get out of LA county  
Post that Alice for me  
Stephen

Sent from myiPhone  
Stephen

On Nov 30, 2020, at 11:45 AM, Alice Atkins <[aatkins@ci.monrovia.ca.us](mailto:aatkins@ci.monrovia.ca.us)> wrote:

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**From:**  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Covid Restrictions  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 1, 2020 5:27:16 AM

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My name is Daphne Maddison and I have been the proud owner of House of Windsor in Downtown Monrovia for some 30 years. I write to you in hopes you will consider my words in regards to closing down the restaurant outdoor dining in this city.

I have watched over the past 8 ½ months businesses fail and close. I have seen friends lose their life's work and in some cases homes because of lack of being able to continue to pay their mortgage. We came into Monrovia many years ago when a lot of stores were boarded up; We were asked over and over...why? Why on earth did we pick Monrovia ~ the answer was simple, the City had a vision and they kept their word in creating that vision of a beautiful and unique downtown.

I opened a tiny shop on the corner of Myrtle Avenue and Lemon so very many years ago. We have grown since then into the location we now are in, with over 4,000 square feet to serve this community with beautiful gifts and great customer service. I, like many businesses, have watched our income go down and down until finally half my staff has been laid off, my husband and I have not taken a paycheck out of the store since last March in order to keep it afloat.

A small business like ours, relies on the local restaurants for foot traffic, and now that has come to a complete standstill! On black Friday I watched as my staff, one by one was sent home and a dozen shoppers maybe came into our store. ABC news came in to interview us as to how this shutdown has affected my store.....what I told them, I will tell you in this email in hopes that you will realize the damage the City is doing by keeping restaurants closed.

The restaurants in this town, obviously have suffered ~ when the mandate of hanging plastic between tables and passing traffic came a few weeks back, it was adhered too, even though financially it put another hardship to find that money ~ now, outside dining has been removed because some government official (who by the way still gets their weekly paycheck) has deemed it not safe to eat outdoors! I drive home each and every night and I see hundreds of cars in the Walmart parking lot (oh and they don't wipe down the carts anymore.....I guess we must not need that now for safety! I pass Home Depot, again probably 100 plus cars.....I pass Target and Costco before I end up in my house in Upland....once again, hundreds of cars.....None of this makes any sense to me .....Covid doesn't get you there but it gets you if you eat outdoors!

I worked late last Friday night and couldn't help but notice several hundred people flocking into the street fair that was held in Monrovia ~ there was a tamale vendor selling tamales out of his cooler and no one was stopping him or any one else.....and yet the city feels it is unsafe for restaurants with a handful of tables to be there. Restaurants that pay their city license and do so much more for the city than the vendors who come once a week for a few hours .....I don't want the street fair to go away, but I do want you to think about why they can be here, why hundreds of people can flock into other business in Monrovia, but you penalize the restaurants that are here....none of that makes any sense whatsoever. Please reconsider your judgement with what has happened.

I keep hearing about essential business vs. nonessential.....The fireman, the policeman, the medical worker, the market.....Well, I can't help but think of the man who owns the little restaurant next door and has 4 small children to feed.....I bet those children consider him "essential" to them. I bet his wife considers him essential to their family to pay the rent. You see, it is so wrong to deem a small business owner as nonessential, or a waiter or waitress as nonessential. Please think about those words, please!

Business, like most things, has a trickle down effect.....I learned this years ago from President Ronald Regan. When those restaurants closed, they lost their income completely, but their expenses did not stop, they still had rent, utilities, food, etc. etc. Now, let's look at my businessd.....I rely on foot traffic from those restaurants, my income has dropped so dramatically this last week that unless things change, I must close my store after 30 years. Yes, I will board up the windows and Monrovia will see what I saw 30 years ago when my friends said I was crazy to open a business here. We pay a hefty business license because of the amount of dollars we sell in our store each year. Monrovia will no longer receive that money! God knows what business will open in our place ~ right now, anyone with common sense would not open a small business in this state! If I board up in January ~ property values in the City of Monrovia will start to drop.....not just because of me and my store, but because other businesses, like all the restaurants will also board up! If anyone listening to this owns property in this City or values the surrounding city then they have to rethink this closure. Real Estate agents will be affected and so on and so forth....the trickle down economics!

If it is in your power, I ask you to rethink this legislation. Look at the long term effect it will have on this entire community. People will lose their life's savings, their business, their homes, Monrovia will once again be deemed a not so great city to open a business in, like it was many years ago. People who live in this city will see the value of their homes plummet.....it just goes on and on.

I have watched the restaurants wear double masks, double gloves and do everything that has been asked and now that has all been taken away. If you think that they can reopen in mid December, that won't happen. You not just take away their livelihoods, but you take away their innermost belief that America is a place where if you work hard, you can make a good living ~ you will crush these people; please don't do this.

I don't know who on the board determines this or even now if you can have the power to take back your little town ~ but if you do, for God's sake please help us out. I want to be here in 2021 as do so many others. I have always described Monrovia as Mayberry ~ it is like going back in time. We have values, we care for one another, we work hard to make this a better town. Please work with us on this matter.

Daphne Maddison  
House of Windsor

**From:**  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item RCC-1 (c) - December 1, 2020  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 1, 2020 4:27:34 PM

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## Discussion of Alternatives to Los Angeles County Health Department

I am concerned about the ban on outdoor dining in LA County. Shutting down restaurants for outdoor dining is detrimental to our local economy. It is jeopardizing tax revenue and causing higher unemployment numbers in our area. Small businesses are suffering and may ultimately fail.

So far, the LA County Health Department has been unable to justify this ban on outdoor dining based on scientific data. The CDC study that was cited last week was a nationwide study that did not distinguish between indoor and outdoor dining, and did not include statistics that specifically pertained to LA County. LA County is the only county in the State of California to ban outdoor dining. Pasadena, which has its own health department and tracks its own data has decided not to go along with the ban. Several cities in LA County including Whittier, West Covina, and Lancaster join Monrovia in considering forming their own health department, or forming one in conjunction with other cities. My question is why has LA County has made this decision, and why so many cities are interested in forming their own health departments?

Last week Dr. Ferrer cited a lack of resources in her department. This week she has expanded on her statement. She said that it is not outdoor dining that is the risk, it is restaurants that are not complying with the requirements. She said that there are 31,000 restaurants in LA County. Her staff can get to 300 restaurants a day. If there are violations, the health department must go back to these restaurants. She said she does not have the staff to do this. This leads me to believe there might be a budget problem. Los Angeles County might be too large and too diverse to handle the needs of our citizens.

I am an Arcadia resident, but I frequent dining establishments in Monrovia. I have many friends who own businesses and/or have homes in Monrovia. Several months ago I voted to raise the sales tax in Arcadia to prevent it from going to LA County as a whole, if an increase was voted in (which is likely). Monrovia followed suit. I believe Monrovia residents would like to keep their money here. Would this extra money generated from sales tax be used to create a health department? Will it increase taxes for business owners and homeowners? How much will this cost, and how long will it take to implement? What are the pros and cons? These are the questions that I would like to have answered by the City Council.

Thank you,

Maria Case



December 1, 2020

Dear Monrovia City Council,

Thank you to council and city staff for all of your work during these COVID-19 times.

Monrovia Housing and Tenants Advocates submits this letter in reference to agenda item **AR-1: authorizing Monrovia to become an Additional Member of the California Community Housing Agency (CalCHA), support CalCHA's issuance of tax-exempt bonds for the production, preservation, and protection of essential middle-income rental housing, and authorize the City Manager to enter into purchase option agreements with CalCHA for essential middle-income rental housing in Monrovia.**

We agree that rental housing for middle-income earners is essential and support this item. We hope that by becoming a member of CalCHA, Monrovia residents will see local, realistic housing results. Housing for all income earners contributes to a diversity of community that benefits everyone.

But we ask that you also keep housing production and protection in mind for low and very low income residents and future residents of Monrovia. Many key workers in our local businesses, institutions, and non-profits fall into the low and very low income brackets. They need housing and have a right to their community, and in the case of protecting affordable housing stock, residents have a right to stay in the communities they helped build. As we leave 2020, the economic fall out of the global pandemic will have long lasting consequences. We knew the housing crisis has hit everyone hard, but it falls disproportionality hard on low income workers. These workers are our school workers, health care workers, retail workers, restaurant workers: people who make Monrovia what it is.

But Monrovia needs to make better strides towards production of housing stock for these Monrovians. This includes stricter and greater inclusionary demands for new projects. But we also hope that memberships in groups similar to CalCHA, community input on the upcoming housing element, and openness to creative funding ideas result in the production of more rental housing for low and very low income earners and residents of Monrovia.

Again, MHTA thanks council and city staff for their work on housing in Monrovia and we look forward to working collaboratively with the city on the upcoming housing element and other housing issues.

Sincerely,

Monrovia Housing and Tenants Advocates

