

# County of Placer

## Board of Supervisors

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District 1

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District 4

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District 5



August 21, 2020

Erica Pan, MD, MPH  
Acting State Public Health Officer  
California Department of Public Health  
Post Office Box 997377  
MS 0500  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

Re: *Businesses Opening Indoor Operations During Air Quality Emergency*

Dear Dr. Pan:

Thank you again for your continued efforts to keep our state residents safe from COVID-19.

We are writing to respectfully request that our local businesses be permitted to open indoor operations as soon as possible to protect our residents from the increasingly poor air quality due to these unprecedented wildfires.

The Placer County Board of Supervisors submitted a letter to you on August 19 requesting that our County be permitted to open businesses following 14 days from our removal from the watch list. Since then our state has been devastated with several horrific wildfires. Our county has been fortunate to not have a wildfire break out within our boundaries, however there are fires in communities around us which have significantly impacted the air quality of our entire county.

Placer County Health Officer, Dr. Aimee Sisson, stated that she does not recommend any person remain outdoors for an extended period when the Air Quality Index (AQI) is above 150. Today our main populated areas have an average AQI of 171. A representative of CalFire shared that we will likely see air quality at this level for at least the next two weeks.

In the continued spirit of collaboration, we have echoed your warnings about the spread of COVID-19. Our community has done an excellent job slowing the spread of COVID-19 as shown by our removal from the state watch list. With that said, our businesses that have already been struggling to stay open and have followed the state order to close or operate outdoors cannot continue to do so under these new circumstances.

We respectfully request that the businesses outlined in the July 13<sup>th</sup> statewide health order be allowed to reopen indoor operations in Placer County to protect public health. These include, gyms and fitness centers, places of worship, hair salons and barbershops, personal care services (nail salons, massage parlors, and tattoo parlors), and malls.

Further, although still listed as to be shut down throughout the state, we ask that restaurants, wineries and breweries be allowed to resume indoor operations for the same reasons listed above.

We believe these businesses will continue to implement precautions to keep employees and customers safe.

We appreciate your time and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Bonnie M. Gore  
Chair, Board of Supervisors  
Placer County, District 1



Cindy Gustafson  
Member, Board of Supervisors  
Placer County, District 5



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Mayor  
City of Auburn



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Greg Janda  
Mayor  
City of Rocklin



John B. Allard II  
Mayor  
City of Roseville

Cc: The Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom  
Placer County Board of Supervisors  
Todd Leopold, Placer County Executive Officer