



CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

TO: HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Commerce, California, approving the Temporary Employee Temperature Screening and COVID-19 Health Precautions Policy and other procedures related to non-contact temperature screenings at all City facilities

MEETING DATE: December 1, 2020

RECOMMENDATION:

Due to the recent rise in COVID-19 cases and "Limited Stay at Home Order at Slow Spread of COVID-19" issued on November 19, 2020, in which COVID-19 continues to be an immediate threat to the public health and safety, staff is recommending additional measures and tools to help reduce and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Staff is recommending that the City Council consider the approval and adoption of a Resolution approving the attached Temporary Employee Temperature Screening and COVID-19 Health Precautions Policy and non-contact temperature screenings for all visitors at all City facilities in order to help continue the prevention and reduction of the spread of COVID-19 while still maintaining current City services. These policies and protocols are based on federal, state and local guidelines and orders, City risk management partner resources and review from special counsel.

BACKGROUND:

On March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California declared a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 and the Health Officer of Los Angeles County determined that there is an imminent and proximate threat to the public health from the introduction of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County and declared a Local Health Emergency, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors concurrently proclaimed the existence of a local emergency for the County of Los Angeles.

On March 16, 2020, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health instituted the "Safer at Home" order to control the spread of COVID-19, which among other things, temporarily prohibits all events and public gatherings of 50 or more people, and the closure of non-essential businesses and areas.

Also on March 16, 2020, the City of Commerce City Council passed a Resolution

declaring a local state of emergency and granting the City Manager emergency authority related to the implementation of emergency City protocols and procedures.

On March 21, 2020, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health issued a Health Order prohibiting all indoor and private gatherings and all outdoor public and private events.

On April 10, 2020, Los Angeles County Public Health Department issued the extension of the "Safer at Home" order to May 15, 2020, requirement to wear cloth face coverings when interacting with persons not members of the same household and requirement for essential businesses and services to implement and post, as well as to distribute to all employees, a social distancing protocol.

Also on April 10, 2020, the City Manager at the direction by Council determined that all non-essential City services were closed to the public and the "Safer At Home" Order issued by the Los Angeles County Public Health Department and Social Distancing Protocol would be posted at the entrance of all City facilities.

The City Manager deemed that transportation, public safety and limited facilities services would continue to be available to the public, whereas all other City services would be available by no contact through telephone, email, City websites, verified City social media accounts and self-servicing City portals.

On April 16, 2020, the City Manager communicated by internal memorandum the "Safer At Home" Order issued by the Los Angeles County Public Health Department, City closure of non-essential services to the public, the social distancing protocol for employees and anyone entering City facilities and other COVID-19 health precautions to all employees. The Social Distancing protocol and other safety protocols and messaging are attached for reference.

In April 2020 Governor Newsom and the State Public Health Officer articulated a 4 Stage framework ("California Pandemic Resilience Roadmap") to reintroduce sectors and activities in a phased manner to protect health and safety and lower COVID-19 transmissions and outbreaks in the community.

On May 13, 2020 the County of Los Angeles Public Health Department announced its "Reopening Safer at Work and in the Community Revised Order" moving the County of Los Angeles through "Stage 2" of "California's Pandemic Resilience Roadmap".

On May 29, 2020 the County of Los Angeles announced the State's approval of the County's plan to move further into "Stage 2" of California's "Pandemic Resilience Roadmap".

By order of the City Manager at the direction by City Council and in accordance with the revised Los Angeles County Public Health Orders, certain programming and services within the Parks and Recreation, such as day camps and programming and library services programming, such as curbside pickup, are permissible for limited reopening to the public. As such, those programs instituted safety protocols for employees to serve the public. Those safety protocols and messaging are attached for reference.

On November 19, 2020, the Governor of the State of California and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued a Limited Stay at Home Order to Slow Spread of COVID-19 requiring generally that non-essential work, movement and

gatherings stop between 10PM and 5 AM in counties in the purple tier. It was also reported that the number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise, and with no vaccine for the treatment of COVID-19, there continues to be an immediate threat to the public health and safety. This information was conveyed to all City employees by the City Manager on November 19, 2020 in an effort to promote social distancing and proper care during the pandemic. Due to the order and increase in COVID-19 cases, there is an immediate need to institute additional safety measures for the protection of members of the public entering and for all City employees working in city facilities by implementing non-contact temperature checks. Non-contact temperature checks are an additional tool to reduce the risk of possible COVID-19 community transmissions in city facilities and will be in effect for a limited period of time.

The City and the City of Commerce Employee Safety Committee and Employees Association (CCEA), representing full-time and part-time employees units and the City of Commerce (City) have met and conferred regarding the City's Temporary Temperature Screening and COVID-19 Health Precautions Policy to consolidate current City practices and protocols and the implementation of employee temperature screenings to help prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 while still maintaining limited City services. The City Manager also conveyed the draft Temporary Temperature Screening and COVID-19 Health Precautions Policy to all City employees on November 23, 2020 in an effort to provide notice and spark dialogue on the proposed policy which is intended to protect the health and wellbeing of City employees and the public they serve.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total financial costs associated with implementing and approving the policy is undefined due to evolving nature and uncertainty of the pandemic. The temperature screening equipment such as thermometers and temperature kiosks will cost approximately \$12,000, which can be addressed via Coronavirus Relief Funds allocated to Cities as part of the Federal Budget Act of 2020. Emergency paid sick leave and other leaves related to COVID-19 are available to qualifying employees under The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and Families First Coronavirus Response Act, which in the future have been communicated that there would be Federal reimbursements for certain stipulations related to the these aforementioned Acts.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council can take the following action:

1. Approve staff recommendation
2. Revise staff recommendation
3. Provide staff with further direction

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC GOALS:

This agenda report relates to the 2016 City of Commerce Strategic Guiding Principle – City Organization, as follows: Implement city business processes and operational efficiencies to streamline the cost of government including the examination and identification of cost of services and cost of recovery policies. Continue to provide safe,

efficient and cost effective public transit and recreational excursions that meet the needs of our residents, businesses and visitors.

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Approved as to form: Noel Tapia, City Attorney

Respectfully submitted by: Edgar P. Cisneros, City Manager