



PEGGY LEMONS  
Mayor

BRENDA OLMOS  
Vice Mayor

ISABEL AGUAYO  
Councilmember

LAURIE GUILLEN  
Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS  
Councilmember

April 29, 2020

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

VIA E-mail: [ExternalAffairs@gov.ca.gov](mailto:ExternalAffairs@gov.ca.gov)

Dear Governor Newsom:

The City of Paramount thanks 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 and 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 the League of California Cities 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 Paramount projects that it will be impacted by approximately \$3 million this year alone. These shortfalls will impact our core city services, including our police services, planning and housing services, furloughs, and other cuts to reduce greater impact to core City services for residents and employees.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, the City of Paramount has stepped up to protect and serve our community. We have provided some 30,000 free face masks to our residents, delivered meals to our older adult residents at their homes, continue to provide emergency planning and building safety services for emergency home repairs, and use our essential workforce to actively enforce social distancing measures in public spaces to do our part to ensure we defeat COVID-19. The necessary measures our City has taken are costly. In order to continue to be a full partner with the state in saving lives, protecting our communities, and ultimately recovering from this crisis, **we need your help.**

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*Dedicated to providing fiscally responsible services that maintain a vibrant community.*

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The City of Paramount is calling on you to immediately 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.

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

CITY OF PARAMOUNT



Peggy Lemons

Mayor

Cc: Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd California State Senate District  
Assemblymember Anthony Rendon, 63rd California State Assembly District  
Kristine Guerrero, League of California Cities, [kguerrero@cacities.org](mailto:kguerrero@cacities.org)