



Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

Governor Doug Ducey  
1700 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Governor Ducey,

As Arizona mayors, we stand ready to work with you to identify and implement the most effective interventions to ensure continuity of operations throughout the State and support efforts to prevent, mitigate and respond to COVID-19, in accordance with your recently published executive order.

With each passing day, more jurisdictions – including 17 states, 14 counties, and eight cities – throughout the country are passing orders requiring residents to limit their travel for only essential functions. Many of us are strongly considering taking similar actions at the local level.

Last week, several Arizona mayors made the difficult decision of suspending dine-in services at local restaurants, as well as ordering the closure of bars, gyms, and other venues where groups of individuals congregate in close proximity. Forty-eight hours later, you ordered similar actions in counties with confirmed cases of COVID-19.

While we are appreciative of these efforts, we quickly realized that this simply drove individuals to seek resources and patronize restaurants and bars in adjacent counties, at times overwhelming local residents with the influx of new traffic and jeopardizing their community public health.

We appreciate you taking action yesterday to define what are to be considered essential functions. However, in reviewing your executive order we feel that it is too broad in its definition of “essential,” such as the inclusion of payday lenders and golf courses.

Furthermore, all of us recognize the value in statewide direction. In order to ensure continuity and uniformity across the state, we respectfully request the following:

- Clear and direct guidance with regard to the restrictions and closures of non-essential functions. With the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 increasing at a rapid pace, we respectfully ask for statewide direction with respect to the operation of non-essential functions. This will help prevent confusion for our local business and residents, and provide the clear, uniform direction our state needs during this critical juncture.
- An issuance of a statewide moratorium on all evictions and foreclosures. While there seems to be assistance provided at a federal level to those who hold

MAYOR REGINA ROMERO  
CITY OF TUCSON



255 W ALAMEDA, 10<sup>TH</sup> FL  
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701  
PHONE: (520) 791-4201

mortgages, there lacks a public conversation regarding evictions. Arizona is already experiencing a high rate of evictions due to a high cost of living and COVID-19 is only going to exacerbate the issue. While we appreciate the additional funding for housing assistance included in yesterday's relief package, we seek assurance that no Arizonan loses their home due to the economic hardship imposed by COVID-19.

We acknowledge that these are painful decisions with severe economic repercussions, but immediate action will save lives. Moreover, they are decisions we prefer to have state guidance on to avoid the aforementioned inconsistencies and lack of uniformity.

As mayors of Arizona cities and towns, we are looking to you for your leadership during these trying times as our residents look to us to ensure their safety and well-being.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Regina Romero", written over a horizontal line.

Tucson Mayor Regina Romero

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Coral Evans", written over a horizontal line.

Flagstaff Mayor Coral Evans

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anna Tovar", written over a horizontal line.

Tolleson Mayor Anna Tovar

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerry Anaya", written over a horizontal line.

Somerton Mayor Gerry Anaya

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas L. McCauley", written over a horizontal line.

Winslow Mayor Thomas McCauley