



Legislation Text

File #: 20-0515, **Version:** 1

Supervisor Novasel recommending the Board consider options to reduce travel to the South Lake Tahoe area for the duration of Governor Newsom's "Stay-at-Home" order issued via Executive Order N-33-20 and in accordance with the County Health Officer's Directive Restricting Activities in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, and provide direction to staff. (Est. Time: 30 Min.)

DISCUSSION / BACKGROUND

In response to the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic and outbreak in California, Governor Newsom declared a state of emergency on March 4, 2020. In addition, El Dorado County declared a local health emergency and proclaimed a state of local emergency on March 12, 2020 (ratified by the Board of Supervisors on March 17, 2020). The Cities of South Lake Tahoe and Placerville have each proclaimed a local state of emergency, as well.

On March 19, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-33-20, a "Stay-at-Home" order. On the same day, the Dr. Williams, County Health Officer, issued a "Shelter-in-Place" Directive for El Dorado County through April 16, 2020. The Directive called for County residents to remain at their places of residence unless performing or receiving essential services.

Acknowledging an influx of visitors to the Tahoe Basin despite the Governor's Order and the local directives, Dr. Williams issued a statement on March 24, 2020, clarifying that staying in a short-term lodging for recreation, tourism, or as a location other than one's residence to "shelter in place" is not considered an essential activity and Californians are in violation of the Governor's Order and the Public Health Officer's Directive if they do so.

On March 29, 2020, President Trump extended national social-distancing guidance through April 30, 2020. On March 31, 2020, Dr. Williams extended her Shelter-in-Place Directive through April 30, 2020.

Despite these efforts, local residents and officials in the Tahoe Basin have continued to express concerns about non-essential travel to the area. On March 25, 2020, the City of South Lake Tahoe directed the Director of Emergency Services/Interim City Manager issued an emergency order to authorize administrative citations and fines, in the amount of \$1,000 each, for violations of the Governor's Order. The emergency order, signed on April 1, 2020, authorizes citations and fines to any person or business violating the Governor's Order, including non-essential businesses that are still open to the public, vacation home rental properties, hotels, motels, and campgrounds hosting guests.

The Board is asked to consider whether it should take additional actions to enforce the Governor's Order and the Health Officer's Directives.

ALTERNATIVES

The Board could take no additional action, and the Governor's Order would continue to have the force of law, despite enforcement actions taken by the County.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION

On March 17, 2020 (File #20-0419) the Board ratified the local emergency and local health emergency and authorized the CAO to take additional action as necessary to protect the health and safety of El Dorado County residents and ensure the continuity of governmental operations.

OTHER DEPARTMENT / AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

Chief Administrative Office; Unified Incident Command (Public Health and Sheriff's Office)

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

CLERK OF THE BOARD FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN COMPONENT

Public Safety

CONTACT

Supervisor Novasel