

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 335, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2470

March 26, 2020

Governor Gavin Newsom 1303 10th Street, Suite 1173 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom,

Due to the extraordinary circumstances and emergency created by the COVID-19 pandemic, we request an Executive Order to allow for a 60-day extension of the deadline for property tax payments beyond April 10 or to provide a 60-day grace period where the San Diego County Treasurer/Tax Collector may cancel any penalties, costs, or other charges resulting from property tax payments received between April 10 and June 10, 2020.

Waivers of penalties cannot be granted locally for lost income and financial hardships due to the unanticipated COVID-19 pandemic. It would take an Executive Order to amend California Revenue and Tax Code or an action of the State Legislature to achieve this type of relief.

The current stay at home orders and other public heath orders, while appropriate responses, have created economic hardships on individuals and businesses including property owners. Many people are out of work and small businesses are on hiatus or struggling to make ends meet. Actions by local, State and Federal branches of government, such as delayed income tax payment deadlines, permit fee waivers, moratoriums on evictions, and a Federal relief package aim to relieve financial burdens on individuals and businesses. Each may not completely solve financial hardships created by the COVID-19 pandemic, but collectively they will hopefully make a significant difference for individuals, families, and businesses.

The option for jurisdictions, including San Diego County, to delay the deadline or delay penalties for property tax payments made a month or two later than the April 10 deadline can help the people we serve to make ends meet.

We thank you for your consideration.

JIM DESMOND Vice-Chairman, Fifth District

KRIŠTIN GASPAR Supervisor, Third District

Treasurer Tax Collector