



September 29, 2020

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

Dear Governor Newsom,

Over the last six months, we have learned a great deal about how our businesses can safely re-open without increasing the risk of spreading coronavirus infections. Under your leadership, guidelines on how to safely reopen, based on the best available science and healthcare directives, have allowed essential businesses to remain open, and now, as healthcare numbers have improved, for other business sectors to reopen as well. Your focus on providing guidelines for restaurants, schools, personal services, gatherings, and so many other businesses and activities have given us hope, because with guidelines, a path forward can be envisioned.

However, a crucial segment of our region's economy does not have this hope or path forward – theme parks – because no such guidelines have been issued. We know you have stated that you are working on these guidelines, and we respectfully request that they be issued now.

The importance of theme parks to the Orange County economy cannot be overstated. The Disneyland Resort is the single largest employer in Southern California, with over 32,000 direct jobs at the site and over 78,000 jobs created across the Southland. Knott's Berry Farm is America's oldest theme park and still one of the largest in California. It employs over 5,000 people and helps support an additional 5,000 jobs in the region. Collectively, this is nearly 90,000 jobs in the Southland that are on hold, due to the closure of theme parks.

These economic engines drive our region far beyond the borders of Anaheim and Buena Park. Many guests to our beach destinations incorporate a theme park stay into their travel plans. The iconic brands associated with our theme parks bring recognition to our region beyond the direct impact of travel. The employees of these destinations, and the small businesses that supply and thrive because of them, are scattered far and wide across the Southland. Quite simply, the current state of affairs – no theme parks and no path forward for theme parks – leaves a huge hole in the very heart of our economy that we cannot fill.

We understand, appreciate, and support your focus on a science-first approach to reopening guidelines. We believe that approach, based on what theme park operators have learned from their experience in safely reopening their facilities around the globe in their era of coronavirus, can give you and your team the input needed to issue our state's

guidelines, so that our parks can prepare their plans to meet them, reopen, and get our people back to work.

We look forward to your Administration issuing these guidelines very soon and thank you again for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Orange County Mayors



Harry Sidhu  
Mayor  
City of Anaheim



Marty Simonoff  
Mayor  
City of Brea



Fred Smith  
Mayor  
City of Buena Park



Jennifer Fitzgerald  
Mayor  
City of Fullerton



Steve Jones  
Mayor  
City of Garden Grove



Lyn Semeta  
Mayor  
City of Huntington Beach



Laurie Davies  
Mayor  
City of Laguna Niguel



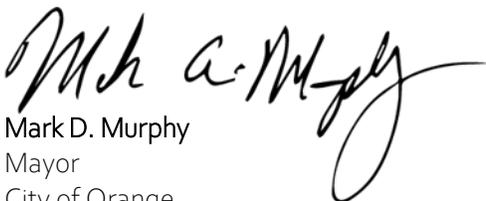
Neeki Moatazedi  
Mayor  
City of Lake Forest



Richard D. Murphy  
Mayor  
City of Los Alamitos



Will O'Neill  
Mayor  
City of Newport Beach



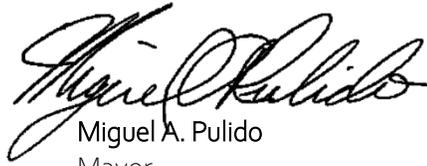
Mark D. Murphy  
Mayor  
City of Orange



Ward Smith  
Mayor  
City of Placentia



Laura Ferguson  
Mayor Pro Tem  
City of San Clemente



Miguel A. Pulido  
Mayor  
City of Santa Ana



Schelly Sustarsic  
Mayor  
City of Seal Beach



Robbie Pitts  
Mayor  
City of Villa Park



Tri Ta  
Mayor  
City of Westminster