



City of Maywood

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Re: COVID-19 Relief in Southeast Cities

April 8, 2020

To Whom This May Concern:

The City of Maywood is proud to be part of the Southeast region and part of a community that has always stepped up to support its neighbors. We know that to meet this moment, we must tackle the many challenges resulting from COVID-19 together.

Specifically, we commend Los Angeles County's proposed COVID-19 relief plan in the Southeast region. Los Angeles County is identifying sites for COVID-19 testing to offer the community beginning in the coming days. Testing for COVID-19 is critical to identify cases, provide quick treatment, and prevent further spread. The importance of testing cannot be overstated as part of the public health mitigation efforts.

Los Angeles County entered in a short-term lease of the Quality Inn & Suites at The Bicycle Casino, in Bell Gardens, as a necessary asset to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. As a matter of equity, identifying hotels as medical sheltering sites is critical for our communities – not everyone has the space or comfort to isolate and quarantine in their own living situations. By providing accommodations to our friends, families, and neighbors, the hotel will be a safe space to isolate and heal. We need more places for people to recover from COVID-19. Los Angeles County's proposal to use the Bell Gardens Quality Inn has a site to house those who are ill or have been in contact with someone who has become ill will ensure that our communities are safe and healthy. Individuals with the virus must be kept at a safe location, apart from the general public, in order to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Additionally, as the Mayor of the City of Maywood, I wish to express that my colleagues and I care deeply about the economic impact COVID-19 is having on families. By keeping the Quality Inn open and occupied with guests, tax revenues will continue to come into our city and communities – allowing an easier economy recovery once these days are behind us.

Lastly, as part of this comprehensive effort, we understand that Los Angeles County is working to identify sites for food distribution in the Southeast region. We have seen firsthand that many families are experiencing food insecurity at this time. Increasing food supply in the region will provide the nourishment our communities need and deserve.

Thank you for your consideration of the above plan. I also want to acknowledge Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis and the entire Board of Supervisors for moving swiftly. Please contact me at eddie.delariva@cityofmaywood.org or 323-562-5712 if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Eddie De La Riva, Mayor
City of Maywood