

Board Unanimously Rejects Increasing Fees for Restaurants/Small Businesses

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a recommendation to prevent over \$600,000 in fee increases and new fees proposed for Fiscal Year 2021-22. Instead, the County will explore the use of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds to cover anticipated budget shortfalls.

The County Department of Environmental Health and Quality proposed increasing and enacting 139 fees that would have impacted restaurants, retail markets, school food facilities, farmers markets, mobile food facilities and other businesses.

“Increasing fees on businesses that are barely surviving during the pandemic is the wrong idea, at the wrong time,” said Supervisor Anderson. “We have businesses trying to reopen and families trying to survive. The County is providing a number of resources to our residents and businesses to meet the challenges of COVID-19, deferring scheduled fee increases is yet another way we can help our community recover.”

These efforts were supported by the San Diego Chapter of the California Restaurant Association, an industry that has been significantly impacted by continuing COVID closures and enforcement regulations.



Rise Up Industries' (RUI) Reentry Program recently celebrated its 5-year anniversary. This incredible program develops its members vocationally and holistically with over 3,000 hours of comprehensive, wraparound services for each individual over the course of 18 months. This model originated from Homeboy Industries, the most successful gang intervention and reentry program in the world. Graduates of the RUI Reentry Program have a 0% recidivism rate, while 100% were hired by local manufacturing companies immediately upon graduation. This success rate greatly outperforms the national averages for recidivism.

Supervisor Anderson is honored to have Rise Up Industries located and operating in his district. To commemorate their fifth anniversary, Supervisor Anderson provided Rise Up Industries with a County certificate of recognition.

Supervisor Anderson wants to recognize the incredible work of his constituents for the many ways in which they give their time and treasury back to their community. If you know of an individual or group that is deserving of a certificate of recognition, please fill out the [certificate request form](#) on his website.

Initiative to Expand the County's Innovative Housing Trust Fund Approved

On Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved Supervisor Anderson's initiative to provide an additional \$25 million for expanding the County of San Diego's Innovative Housing Trust Fund (IHTF). The IHTF spurs the production and preservation of housing through enhanced partnerships with regional stakeholders. Specifically, these funds are used for public-private partnerships between developers and the County for the creation of housing units for vulnerable populations such as veterans, seniors and disabled individuals. Since 2017, almost 1,400 units have been created across the County through this Trust Fund, which has leveraged more than \$569 million in other public and private funding sources.

The success of IHTF is apparent. In 2019, Villa De Vida in Poway broke ground to develop 54 affordable housing units for adults with developmental disabilities. The Grove, located in the City of Vista, currently provides 81 units of housing for seniors. Otay Mesa's Playa Del Sol was built with 42 units to serve families, with 12 units dedicated for persons with disabilities, and Vista del Puente, which consists of 52 units, serves families, special needs individuals, and homeless veterans with special needs. The IHTF has significantly demonstrated the return on investment that the County has put into it.

San Diego Enters the Orange Tier for COVID-19 Response

On Wednesday, April 7, San Diego County moved into the Orange Tier due to having less than 6 cases per every 100,000 residents for the last two weeks.

For more information on the tiers, please visit the California Department of Public Health's [Blueprint Activity and Business Tiers](#).

These are the changes that took effect under the Orange Tier:

- **Restaurants:** Indoor seating increased to 50% capacity or 200 people maximum. The 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. operations curfew also ended.
- **Gyms and Fitness Centers:** 25% capacity indoors; indoor pools can open.
- **Wineries and Breweries:** 25% or 100 people indoors maximum.
- **Movie Theaters:** 50% or 200 people maximum.
- **Museums, Zoos and Aquariums:** 50% capacity for indoor activities.
- **Places of Worship:** 50% capacity indoor activities.
- **Bars with no food service:** Open outdoors with modifications.
- **All retail:** No capacity limits.