

From: [sarah.thompson](#)
To: [Exhibits_JSCVR](#)
Subject: Covid-19 economic relief
Date: Monday, March 16, 2020 11:25:04 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

Hello, my name is Sarah. I currently work in the food industry. To my understanding, representatives of Portland are meeting this Wednesday the 18th to decide what type of rent relief and economic aid will be granted to those financially affected by the quarantine. Many of us who work in the service industry are at risk of going weeks and possibly months without income. Employees of the small businesses that give Portland its unique character are especially vulnerable as these employers cannot afford to offer their employees paid leave.

Please postpone rent and utility charges for even two months. Also **please ban evictions** during this time. It is crucial that no one be left exposed on the streets or forced to take shelter in a crowded place at a time like this. If Portland were to follow Gov. Newsom and Los Angeles' new ban on evictions, it could keep thousands economically stable while **workers forgo work for the good of everyone around them.**

As Newsom put it, "everyone will have to make sacrifices, but a place to live shouldn't be one of them." Even though landlords would lose money, their rent would also be suspended, and they could also bounce back from the hit we are all feeling. This is all in the effort to empower people to pick up where we left off so to speak. If so many are put into debt over rent, it would economically hurt the city more than if all economic activity slowed for a brief time.

Thank you for representing us. We are truly counting on you to act with empathy. In the midst of so much uncertainty, please give us reason to be confident our lives can resume to normalcy and that our civic duty to self quarantine will not be unnecessarily penalized.

Not me us,
Sarah