

**From:** [Tanna TenHoopen Dolinsky](#)  
**To:** [Exhibits JSCVR](#)  
**Subject:** Small business closure and impact  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2020 2:25:00 PM

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To whom this concerns,

I am a female small business owner in Portland Oregon; I run two food carts by the name of Wolf and Bear's. We have been in business 10.5 years.

We recognize that reducing all unnecessary in-person contact is the most responsible thing to do at this critical turning point if we are to flatten the curve and slow the spread of this virus.

Today we closed shop for the first time in those 10.5 years and at the worst possible timing for us (and our employees) as this is occurring after winter months when business is very slow for most food carts. We do not have a cushion at this time and are too afraid to take out business loans due to our lack of confidence that we'd be able to pay them back. We are going to have to dip into our personal savings (also very slim as we have been operating at a loss) to cover costs, as our business accounts will not be able to cover rent. We do not expect leniency from our landlords (Bitar Companies) as they have not shown any leniency in the past, in fact, quite the opposite. We have discussed this reality with our fellow cart owners and employees so are confident that many are in the exact same boat, if not much worse. Since we have been open 10.5 years our name recognition might help us gain community support and reopen once things settle down which is not true for those who have just recently opened up.

We strongly urge you to please take steps to protect small businesses and enable us to reopen once things have stabilized. If we were given a break and not expected to pay rent during closures it would greatly improve our chances. Please make updates readily available and communicate clearly to our communities with regard to practical steps we can take to protect ourselves, our small businesses, and our staff.

Do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, happy to participate or help out!

Best wishes,