

COUNCIL REFERRAL MEMORANDUM



Date: 3/17/20
To: Mayor and City Council of Hayward
From: Council Member Aisha Wahab
Referral: **Consider an Item for Discussion on a Future City Council Agenda Regarding “Emergency Stay In Place Ordinance” during a Declaration of an Emergency**

Background:

Hayward, CA is the third largest city in Alameda County and is the “Heart of the Bay”. The current Coronavirus Disease 2019 or COVID-19 is just one example of how important it is to respond efficiently and effectively to an emergency, whether it be a natural disaster or a respiratory illness first identified across the world. Many residents will feel direct impacts to their daily life such as schools shutting down, job loss, wage loss, business closures, and other health and economic impacts.

Referral Request:

It is recommended that the City of Hayward prepare a policy that provides a temporary moratorium on evictions/foreclosures in the City of Hayward to all residents where a failure to pay rent/mortgage is a result from wage loss during an emergency. We must avoid an even greater emergency that would result from displacing thousands of residents from their homes.

This policy should be effective at any time when:

- The City, County, State, or Federal Authority declares a state of emergency.

Actions to Consider:

- The moratorium shall remain in effect for a period of 30 days from the Council resolution, and be brought back to the Council for consideration of extending the duration if the situation demands it.
- The affected resident must demonstrate loss of income due to the emergency through documentation. Examples: job loss, reduction of compensated hours, business/office closure, missing work due to care for another (parent, child, etc.), etc.
- Residents must notify landlord, banks, etc. of substantial wage loss (layoffs, closure, etc.)
- The City shall support landlords and home and business owners in advocating with organizations (banks, city, service providers, etc.) for temporary relief from property taxes, utility charges, and foreclosures.
- Evaluation of such policy after 90-120 days.

Timeline: As soon as possible, at the discretion of the City Manager – no longer than 30-60 days

Stakeholders: Homeowners, Renters, Business Owners, Service Providers, etc.

Prepared & Submitted By:

Aisha Wahab

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Hayward City Council Member