



**Beverly Hills City Council /
COVID-19 Business Recovery Assistance Task Force -
Retail/Property Subcommittee**

**CITY HALL
Telephonic/Video Conference Meeting
Call in: (916) 235-1420 or (888) 468-1195
Participant Pin: 872120
Beverly Hills City Hall
Beverly Hills, CA 90210**

**Wednesday, May 20, 2020
10:30 AM**

SPECIAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

AGENDA

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date / Time: May 20, 2020 / 10:31 AM

IN ATTENDANCE: Vice Mayor Robert Wunderlich, Councilmember John A. Mirisch, City Treasurer Howard S. Fisher, City Manager George Chavez, City Attorney Laurence Wiener, Chief Information Officer David Schirmer, Director of Public Works Shana Epstein, Director of Community Development Susan Healy Keene, Assistant Director of Community Development Ryan Gohlich, Assistant Director of Finance Tatiana Szerwinski, Marketing and Economic Sustainability Manager Laura Biery, Lieutenant Robert Maycott, Todd Johnson (Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce), Kathy Gohari (Rodeo Drive Committee, Valentino), David Mirharooni (Real Estate), Bill Wiley (Property Management), Debbie Quick (Land Use Attorney), Sunny Sassoon (The Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf), Tom Blumenthal (Gearys Beverly Hills), Umberto Savone (Umberto Beverly Hills), Sabaa Kamal (Kamal Beverly Hills), Patricia Illing (The Beverly Hills Bikini Shop)

- 1) Public Comment
 - a. None

- 2) Update regarding items discussed at the May 19, 2020 Beverly Hills City Council meeting
 - a. Laura Biery provided an update of items discussed at the May 19, 2020 Beverly Hills City Council Meeting
 - b. Vice Mayor Wunderlich advised to track the status of items discussed to ensure that the City Council has completely captured the items heard and can be prepared to be distributed to the Committee.

- 3) State of the County update on latest LA County Health Order changes
 - a. The Task Force members explained the extensive safety measures (including but not limited to masks and social distancing) being taken by the Beverly Hills retail businesses and expressed the view that stores are ready to reopen. Some retailers mentioned the difficulty of curbside pickup based on the industry of their business (luxury items, clothing to try on, etc.) and requested to be open for appointment only. The Task Force members expressed requests to be more active in trying to reopen, by sending letters or contacting the State and County Health Department.
 - b. Laura Biery mentioned the retailers that are now open for curbside pickup.
 - c. Vice Mayor Wunderlich advised that this is an evolving situation as different types of businesses continue to reopen. He noted that Beverly Hills must adhere to state and county guidelines, but can be stricter. He advised to standardize protocols and create a checklist for retailers so that stores can demonstrate that they have met protocols, the store is safe, and the City is safe. He requested any businesses to send in their company's guidelines to ultimately help form the City's standards list.
 - d. Councilmember Mirisch questioned if some businesses are operating illegally. City Attorney Wiener confirmed that salons are not allowed to be open nor can retailers have patrons in by appointment only. Councilmember Mirisch directed to have a set of protocols and standards in place, so people know they are safe when visiting Beverly Hills.

- 4) Discussion regarding boardup of vacant or closed retail spaces
 - a. The boardup of vacant or closed retail spaces is not allowed. Code Enforcement and the Police Department are working to correct this and for businesses to be in compliance.
 - b. Vice Mayor Wunderlich asked to define the difference between boarding up and just signage.
 - c. City Manager George Chavez noted that barricades are not being used as they are typically only used in construction projects with architectural approval.

- 5) Discussion regarding retail curbside pick-up including a presentation from the Beverly Hills Police Department
 - a. Lieutenant Maycott explained the best practices for curbside pickup for retailers.
 1. Retailers should take any items out to the persons car and give it to them.
 2. All employees should be wearing face coverings.
 3. Store hours should be clearly posted.
 4. Employees should be identifiable through clothing or badges.
 5. Outside employees should have radio communication with employees inside the store.
 6. Practice situational awareness.
 7. Request identification from patrons picking up orders to ensure people receive the correct items.
 8. Discourage employees from loading items into people's cars.

9. Be careful of patrons walking up alone or in groups and distracting employees. Manage a flow of business one at a time.
 10. If retailers are delivering high end merchandise to residents, alert the Police Department to secure additional patrols in the area to deter crime.
 11. Police will be performing additional patrols in general, however there is always 24/7 coverage.
 12. A flyer with business safety guidelines has been created.
 13. Contact Lieutenant Maycott to arrange for the Police Department to visit your retailer and help review curbside pickup arrangements.
 14. Contact the Beverly Hills Police Department at 310-550-4951 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.
- b. Lieutenant Maycott explained the best practices for curbside pickup for patrons.
 1. Patrons should park and turn their vehicles off.
 2. Patrons should call or visit the store's website to confirm hours and pickup guidelines.
 3. Patrons should utilize face coverings, practice physical distancing, and stay in their vehicle during the transaction.
 - c. The Task Force members appreciated bicycle patrol from the City in addition to normal patrolling.
- 6) Open discussion on particular items by the Subcommittee
- a. It was mentioned that most of the open discussion occurred under Agenda Item #3.
 - b. Vice Mayor Wunderlich summarized that the Task Force wants retailers to be open, wants the City to participate in discussions with the County, would like to put together protocols to operate safely, and to use these protocols to market Beverly Hills as a safe place to shop. There was a request for another meeting in the future.
- 7) Adjournment – 11:34 AM