

## Xenia Bradford

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**From:** Ryan Toussaint  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 9:21 AM  
**To:** Solvang Retailers  
**Cc:** Daryl A. Betancur; Xenia Bradford  
**Subject:** Re: pubic comment

Received!

--==Ryan Toussaint==--

Solvang Dedicated Cell: 805.350.9003

Sent from my iPhone provided by the City of Solvang

On Apr 13, 2020, at 7:08 AM, Solvang Retailers <[solvangretailersassociation@gmail.com](mailto:solvangretailersassociation@gmail.com)> wrote:

please read into the record at the upcoming city council meeting

Dear Mayor  
Solvang City Council Members,  
and  
Solvang City Staff,

We are very grateful for your extraordinary work for the Solvang Business Community and feel your hard work deserves much credit.

Most of the small business owner applicants have already received their emergency loan checks from Solvang's Emergency Funds.

However, EDD's unemployment insurance claims remain unresponsive. Those who claimed EDD unemployment by March 20 must wait until April 15th to receive their first checks. For some reason, EDD is still asking already answered same questions now by postal mail such as "why can't you work?", etc., as though they are unaware of what is happening all around us.

Meanwhile, the Federal SBA and related State and County level agencies seem to have totally collapsed and still at the info giving and info collection level, with no response and no real action; but a total fiasco!

The Solvang Tenant Eviction Ban ordinance is also working out better than the Governor's Order and is outperforming other city ordinances. The Solvang eviction ban has some significant differences – especially for our City – from the Governor's blanket order. Solvang is protecting both residential and commercial/business tenants, while the State order only applies to residences. Solvang provides for a specific payback period of six (6) months, for deferred rent, while the State order does not address that issue. And, Solvang provides twenty (20) days for a tenant to advise the landlord that they will be unable to pay, while the

State only provides for seven (7) days' notice. Solvang recognizes that some are seeking loans and other financial assistance, and therefore might be able to pay if given additional time.

Additionally, the community is grateful for the continued residential and commercial water and sewer service, along with relief given to unpaid bills. And the postponement of the TOT tax payments for hotels until the end of May was much needed given their great financial distress due to the lack of tourism.

Your quick actions were much-needed life support for Solvang's small business community and Solvang's tenant and homeowner residents in a time of great need.

Additionally, the suspension of the "Aggressive Golden Elements' business license was also greatly appreciated by our retailers' community, too. They were aggressive and unfair to the existing local business community. We hope landlords will be more careful when it comes to choosing tenants.

Thank you, Mayor and City Council Members. Thank you, Solvang City Manager and City Attorney. Thank you, City Accountant and rest of the city staff.

Thank you for all so much for doing such a great job.

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### **Solvang Retailers Association**

#### **LET'S BE FRIENDS ON SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/Solvang-Retailers-Association-967129766745867/>**