

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jonathan Riley

**Date Submitted:** 01/06/2021 09:52 AM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Los Angeles decision makers, Please end restrictions related to Covid-19. The social distancing rules are absolutely the worst and have wrecked the economy because we cannot eat at restaurants or go to social events because of it. Social distancing is not feasible in a large city due to the population and density. Such rules will destroy the city especially if imposed long term. Also please note I am NOT a right wing conservative or nationalist extremist. I am a progressive and I have always voted for Democrats and democratic measures. I support relief for the homeless and economically disadvantaged, rent control, civil rights and open immigration. I still believe in elected Democratic officials but I also feel that the recent measures related to Covid-19 have gone too far beginning in March of 2020. I do not have a car so when I am forced to buy take out only food from restaurants I had no choice but to eat sitting on the sidewalk in the cold. Many restaurants do not have space to offer outside seating. Many restaurants have gone out of business. My favorite Yoga/Meditation community center closed due to lack of revenue. As a result I have almost no options left for social interaction. I can't even go out on the weekends because nearly everything is closed. Even buses have reduced service and has become unreliable. Many more people have turned to dangerous drugs because of these new restrictions on daily life and have died from drug overdose not because of a virus. The Covid-19 restrictions imposed on businesses are destroying people's livelihoods. It's not just business owners who have suffered but also customers too. The numbers of Covid cases and deaths have been grossly over-reported. Many other causes of death have been mis-reported as Covid-19 which have perpetuated public fear and panic. As a result extreme measures have been imposed to stop the spread of the virus. If you try to sit down and eat at a restaurant they either kick you out or they get punished by the city. If a Yoga/Meditation studio tries to open in normal conditions (without forced social distancing) they get punished or shut down. Friends are afraid to get together or required to wear masks constantly due to the fear produced by the media reported. Please end these restrictions and investigate the news media immediately. Sincerely, Jonathan Riley

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