



City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

---

## Support Hotel Workers in Crisis

1 message

---

**Mariah Muller** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 8:19 AM

Reply-To: mariahmuller92@gmail.com

To: clerk.cps@lacity.org

City Councilmembers,

Hardworking Angelenos need income and health care more than ever during this time. That includes hotel workers who have been laid off, totally abandoned and let down by employers like Chateau Marmont and Mr. C's Hotel. The city of LA has a duty to protect workers who lose their jobs and health insurance due to the covid-19 crisis.

Mariah Muller

[mariahmuller92@gmail.com](mailto:mariahmuller92@gmail.com)

5739 Clemson Street

[Los Angeles, California 90016](#)



City Clerk Council and Public Services &lt;clerk.cps@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Fwd: Urgent Message for Today's**

1 message

---

**Izabella Hovhanisian** <izabella.hovhanisian@lacity.org>

Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 9:33 AM

To: City Clerk Council and Public Services &lt;clerk.cps@lacity.org&gt;

Cc: Staci Roberts &lt;staci.roberts@lacity.org&gt;, Alan Alietti &lt;alan.alietti@lacity.org&gt;

----- Forwarded message -----

From: &lt;don@gvohospitality.com&gt;

Date: Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 9:29 AM

Subject: Urgent Message for Today's

To: &lt;CityClerk@lacity.org&gt;

Council

I wanted to reach out quickly in regards to something that's up for vote today in the City Council regarding 10 sick days to employees. If anything like this passes to law I can tell you the private sector will be destroyed. Most places run 7.5%-12% EBIDTA of they are really good operators. Your top tier may do 18-22% if they are established chefs. They have investors to reimburse, assets which are depreciating, infrastructure expenses and a myriad of other financial constraints which make cash flow already a challenge. A day with lost revenue is ok, but lapses like this have not been seen in the industry in my 20 year career. The delivery only model has still forced about an 85% reduction in staff and revenue down 95% in some cases. (The delivery companies take 30%) Strapping business owners with another bill will crush the industry and inturn millions of jobs. The fallout will be enormous.

I respectfully ask that your office does whatever it can to mitigate these losses. We are still accruing rents, fixed cost, and labor for those we have been able to retain. The local advertised programs are loans and deferrals which will only put owners into debt at a best case scenario. (We will not recover this loss revenue) With no end in sight and the tone coming from the Office we understand this may go on for a while which is tough enough. Strapping an additional payroll will inevitably bankrupt your local restaurants.

Please help!

Don Fields

GVO Hospitality

310-567-7508



photo

**Don Fields**

Director of Finance, GVO Hospitality

3/27/2020

City of Los Angeles Mail - Fwd: Urgent Message for Today's

(m) 310-567-7508 | [Don@gvohospitality.com](mailto:Don@gvohospitality.com)

Hilltop Coffee + Kitchen | [findyourhilltop.com](http://findyourhilltop.com)

The Parlor Hollywood Sports Bar + Kitchen | [theparlorca.com](http://theparlorca.com)

   [@findyourhilltop](#) | [@theparlorhw](#)



City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

---

## Shame on the Chateau Marmont and Mr. C's Hotel

1 message

---

**Steven Luftman** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>  
Reply-To: sluftman@yahoo.com  
To: clerk.cps@lacity.org

Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 9:36 AM

City Councilmembers,

Please protect the vulnerable workers of Chateau Marmont and Mr. C's Hotel.

Steven Luftman  
[sluftman@yahoo.com](mailto:sluftman@yahoo.com)  
1212 S Orlando Ave  
[Los Angeles , California 90035](#)



City Clerk Council and Public Services &lt;clerk.cps@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Worker protection, renter protection, homeowner protection**

1 message

---

**Susan Stouffer** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>  
Reply-To: sstouffer.peacecenterdirector@gmail.com  
To: clerk.cps@lacity.org

Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 9:58 AM

City Councilmembers,

I want to write to urge you in this unprecedented time to fully support the most comprehensive bill to support all workers, renters, and homeowners. So many families I know are struggling to stay afloat as they are being let go of their jobs, and facing so much uncertainty in their health, homes, bills, and more.

Please continue to offer the bold leadership LA needs and that our City has been able to provide as an example for other cities! LET US TRULY BE THE CITY OF ANGELS!

In peace,

Susan Stouffer

Susan Stouffer

[sstouffer.peacecenterdirector@gmail.com](mailto:ssouffer.peacecenterdirector@gmail.com)

1336 w. 25th st.

[Los Angeles, California 90007](#)



City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

---

## Protect LA Workers

1 message

---

**Michael Novick** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>  
Reply-To: antiracistaction\_la@yahoo.com  
To: clerk.cps@lacity.org

Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 10:34 AM

City Councilmembers,

We need to respond not just to the COVID-19 crisis but to the underlying realities it exposes and worsens. Please act now to protect workers and their right to organize. Make sure businesses maintain their health care coverage and do not retaliate against labor organizing. And those protections need to be permanent, not just for the duration of the crisis. Employers like USC, the airlines, and others depend on the city and the commons to carry on, and have social obligations to the workers that have built them up and to the communities in which they operate.

Michael Novick  
[antiracistaction\\_la@yahoo.com](mailto:antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com)  
5832 Bowcroft St.  
[Los Angeles, California 90016](#)



City Clerk Council and Public Services &lt;clerk.cps@lacity.org&gt;

---

## Reporting construction site breaking safer at home

1 message

---

**Gmail** <lauradromerick@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 1:28 PM

To: Clerk.CPS@lacity.org

Hi City Council,

I'm extremely concerned about the construction site next to my house. It's for a luxury apartment building and they have continued working even after the safer at home order. They are very close to my apartment complex's parking lot and community. They've been spreading an absorbent amount of dust and spit everywhere. They have also been cat calling any women who walk out to their car or around the complex, which is both disrespectful and spreads germs in that persons direction. Is there anything you could do to help or anyone you recommend contacting?

The address of my building is [11050 Moorpark St.](#)

Thank you,  
Laura Dromerick



City Clerk Council and Public Services &lt;clerk.cps@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Fwd: Rent Moratorium**

1 message

---

**Anna Martinez** <anna.martinez@lacity.org>  
To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <Clerk.CPS@lacity.org>

Wed, Mar 25, 2020 at 9:39 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Nesi** <[christinanesi@gmail.com](mailto:christinanesi@gmail.com)>  
Date: Wed, Mar 25, 2020 at 9:37 AM  
Subject: Rent Moratorium  
To: <[CityClerk@lacity.org](mailto:CityClerk@lacity.org)>

To Whom It May Concern,

As a resident of Los Angeles, I ask our representatives to please strongly consider a moratorium on rent due to the current state of crisis we are in. Thousands of residents are out of work and don't know when they will be able to work again. In order to prevent a further downward spiral of our current situation financially, socioeconomically, and also from a public health standpoint, I implore you to put a hold on rent payments throughout Los Angeles. LA residents face some of the highest housing costs in America. With the ongoing homeless issue in our city, we should not be taking measures to risk putting thousands more families and households out of their homes if they cannot afford their rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Residents need somewhere to shelter in place in order to control the outbreak of this disease. I ask that you not add to the growing amount of fear and uncertainty we are all facing by forcing LA residents to make rent payments when they no longer have any income due to something completely out of their control.

Thank you,  
Christina Nesi



City Clerk Council and Public Services &lt;clerk.cps@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Fwd: PUBLIC COMMENT...CITY COUNCIL MEETING..MARCH 27, 2020**

1 message

**Izabella Hovhanisian** <izabella.hovhanisian@lacity.org>

Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 3:40 PM

To: Isabel Onate &lt;isabel.onate@lacity.org&gt;

Cc: City Clerk Council and Public Services &lt;clerk.cps@lacity.org&gt;, Alan Alietti &lt;alan.alietti@lacity.org&gt;, Staci Roberts &lt;staci.roberts@lacity.org&gt;

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **emma.riordan via Clerk - CityClerk** <cityclerk@lacity.org>

Date: Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 3:30 PM

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT...CITY COUNCIL MEETING..MARCH 27, 2020

To: &lt;CityClerk@lacity.org&gt;

I WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT MY PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE RECORD FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 27, 2020.

Thank you,  
Emma Riordan  
Los Angeles, Ca.

**1) I SUPPORT 'HOUSING IS A HUMAN RIGHT' AND THEIR COMMENTS AT CITY COUNCIL MEETING TODAY.**

**I urge you to please act immediately to protect vulnerable residents impacted by the coronavirus crisis.**

**Please, no more delays. No more red tape.**

Millions of Angelenos are forced to stay home, with no income coming in.

On April 1st, many will not have the money to make rent and mortgage payments.

Please act now to help Angelenos not just stay home, but keep their homes.

Please support a moratorium and the suspension of rents and mortgages.

Please.....

- No rent increases, evictions, foreclosures, and sheriffs' lockouts CITYWIDE
- A Moratorium on homeless encampment sweeps, closure; and vehicle tows
- Emergency rental or mortgage assistance
- Suspend rents and mortgage payments
- Prohibit utility shut-offs and rate increases, halt the application of late fees, and reinstitute services immediately
- Support the eminent domain of Hillside Villa to save tenants.

**2) .....I SUPPORT LANCC's PROPOSAL THAT THERE SHOULD BE A MORATORIUM ON PLANNING APPROVALS UNTIL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS CAN HOLD TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS FOR OUTREACH TO STAKEHOLDERS AND REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THAT IMPACT THEIR AREAS....**

**WE NEED OUR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS AND NO PROJECTS SHOULD BE APPROVED WITHOUT THEIR REVIEW AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT.**

**I COMMEND AND THANK COUNCILMEMBER RYU FOR SUPPORTING THIS.**

DONE/LANCC's proposals below....

There should be a way to continue Neighborhood Council input and outreach to stakeholders, on projects impacting their communities, via teleconference meetings, as suggested below.

I do not think this time of crisis should be used to continue approving projects with no oversight whatsoever.

Actually there should be a MORATORIUM on all project approvals, and the neighborhood council must be included and meetings must happen, however they happen without people all sitting in a meeting room together. NC teleconference meetings must begin now.

I also feel that the Governor and the Mayor should not have included 'construction' as part of the 'essential' necessary things that must still be going on.

How can construction possibly be considered an 'essential', as food is an 'essential'?

I don't understand why construction workers health, and their families health, during the coronavirus pandemic, are not of concern to the leaders..

There are construction projects going on right now, where workers are not staying the required distance from each other, and also the work is spewing dust and other particles into the air of the neighborhoods causing respiratory issues while people are home fighting the coronavirus which affects lungs and respiratory.

The Mayor should AMEND HIS 'ORDER', and REMOVE CONSTRUCTION AS AN 'ESSENTIAL', for the safety of the workers and their families and so that all of us can breathe clean air during this crisis, while we are home..

They are not 'essential' as our nurses, doctors, etc are 'essential', and their lives should not be placed at risk.

Also, since there is a huge need for masks, (see articles below), couldn't all those masks be used right now at hospitals, instead of for construction jobs, as everyone waits, and people are dying, for more masks to be manufactured and available??

Stopping development projects and construction will protect the health of construction workers and their families, anyone near the projects they are working on, and also would possibly help contribute to the supply of desperately needed protective masks for the medical community.

FROM DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT (DONE).....

The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) has been working very hard with the Mayor's Office, The City Attorney's Office, and the City Council, especially Councilmember David Ryu.

We had reached out to the City with four main requirements for the Neighborhood Councils to operate under this crisis.

1. \*\*\*\*\*That the Mayor's Office, the City Council, the City Attorney's Office, and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment work together to provide a method of teleconferencing that is compliant with Executive Order N-25-20 so that Neighborhood Councils can hold public meetings to conduct business of the City of Los Angeles as provided by the Charter. Public participation at anytime cannot be infringed.\*\*\*\*\*
2. \*\*\*\*\*That the City Attorney's Office create and provide language to the Neighborhood Councils for their agendas to comply with the Brown Act and Executive Order N 25-20 that Neighborhood Councils can use during this crisis for teleconferencing.\*\*\*\*\*
3. That the City Council creates a Council File and the City Attorney's Office creates language to roll over the TOTAL, unused portion of FY 2019-2020 Neighborhood Council funds to be available in FY 2020-2021 because of this crisis.
4. \*\*\*\*\*THAT THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE PLACE A MORATORIUM ON ALL LOS ANGELES CITY PLANNING APPROVALS OF DISCRETIONARY AND NON DISCRETIONARY PROJECTS UNTIL A SYSTEM OF TELECONFERENCING IS IN PLACE OR THE CRISIS HAS SUBSIDED AND NCs ARE CONDUCTING REGULAR MEETINGS. It is the responsibility of the Neighborhood Councils to provide a voice for the Stakeholders and to provide a proper venue for developers to present their projects to the public for scrutiny.\*\*\*\*\*

## SEE ARTICLES BELOW:

## CONSTRUCTION SHOULD STOP NOW....

### NY TIMES...Virus Rules Let Construction Workers Keep Building Luxury Towers

By [Matthew Haag](#)

March 25, 2020

"The laborers, deemed "essential" by New York, work side by side, often sharing portable toilets that rarely have soap or hand sanitizer."

"None of the recent safety protocols recommended by public health officials are practical at a job site, workers said. They share tools, and procedures require that they closely watch over one another.

There is no social distancing. Some workers wear protective masks, which are in short supply.

"They are exposing themselves in groups to the virus," said a construction manager in New York City who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retaliation from his employer. "You have these people getting paid very little and being forced to work to build condos for \$20 million each."

Construction sites are particularly dynamic workplaces, with new workers coming and going all the time, greatly increasing the number of people who come in contact with one another, said Jack Dennerlein, a professor at Northeastern University whose research includes health and safety issues in the construction industry.

"It's a dirty job, and one of the things they have always feared is taking their toxins home," Professor Dennerlein said. "Now they are worried about Covid-19," he added, referring to the disease caused by the coronavirus.

Some construction workers and their relatives have used social media to pressure Mr. Cuomo to exempt the construction industry from the list of essential workers.

Using the hashtag #StopConstruction, they have posted photos of construction workers in tight quarters.

On the Upper East Side of Manhattan, where, like most New Yorkers, residents are largely staying home as the city

reels from the coronavirus pandemic, construction workers building a luxury condominium tower are being forced to continue working in confined and often unsanitary conditions.

In the heart of Manhattan, work continues on an upscale Hard Rock Hotel, even after word spread that up to four workers had tested positive for the virus, prompting some laborers to storm off the site.

In Brooklyn, workers at an apartment building who have had to reuse the same masks every day were ordered back on the job even after a fellow worker had contracted the virus.

While life in New York City and the surrounding region has [come to a screeching halt](#), the construction industry, one of the region's main economic engines and biggest employers, is humming along as if nothing has changed.

Laborers work side by side, cramming 20-people deep into service elevators and sharing the same portable restroom.

While Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo [has told New Yorkers to stay indoors](#) in a furious effort to stem the spread of the coronavirus, construction workers have been deemed essential employees, meaning they have to continue working even as most of the work force stays home.

"I'm essential to the pocketbooks of rich contractors and essential for spreading the virus, but that's about it," said Kirk Gibbs, 57, an electrician at a new parking garage in Syracuse, N.Y. "It's not essential for us to be here right now."

Across the country, governors and mayors have [urged roughly half of the United States](#) — at least 179 million people — to stay home. The only people who should go outside, they say, are emergency responders and those considered essential, a wide-ranging term with different meanings in each state.

In New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and most of the country, construction workers have fallen into the essential category. In New York City, which had [nearly 158,000 construction jobs in 2018](#), laborers are hauling hard hats and tools on nearly empty subways and trains every morning on the way to job sites.

Construction sites, even during normal times, are notoriously dirty. Workers often share a single portable toilet, which rarely has soap or hand sanitizer. Running water is not common.

None of the recent safety protocols recommended by public health officials are practical at a job site, workers said. They share tools, and procedures require that they closely watch over one another.

There is no social distancing. Some workers wear protective masks, which are in short supply.

"They are exposing themselves in groups to the virus," said a construction manager in New York City who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retaliation from his employer.  
"You have these people getting paid very little and being forced to work to build condos for \$20 Million each"

Construction sites are particularly dynamic workplaces, with new workers coming and going all the time, greatly increasing the number of people who come in contact with one another, said Jack Dennerlein, a professor at Northeastern University whose research includes health and safety issues in the construction industry.

"It's a dirty job, and one of the things they have always feared is taking their toxins home," Professor Dennerlein said. "Now they are worried about Covid-19," he added, referring to the disease caused by the coronavirus.

Mr. Cuomo signaled that his administration was open to tightening the rules on the kind of construction that should continue during his stay-at-home order.

"We are and have been reviewing this issue, and will continue to refine the state's essential business guidance as the public health concerns dictate," Jack Sterne, a spokesman for the governor, said. "All construction sites must enforce social distancing."

"If a site cannot guarantee the health and safety of their workers, it must close," he added.

Mayor Bill de Blasio, whose office is working with the state on possibly stopping some construction, said some of the work, like infrastructure and low-cost housing, remained vital.

"Luxury condos are not the priority in this city, but there's a lot of other things being worked on that are important," the mayor told reporters at a news conference on Sunday.

In recent weeks, Mr. Gibbs said, almost everyone he has worked with in upstate New York, including himself, have been sick with a cough, a runny nose or body aches. He said he was not aware of anyone who had been tested.

"They should really shut down these projects for two months," he said. "I'd just hate to see more people die and get sick."

A 37-year-old electrician working at an apartment building in Manhattan's Financial District said that he asked the foreman at his construction site on Friday about whether their tools would be sanitized at the end of each day.

"He got offended and laughed at me," said the electrician, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to share his story. He added that he has been carrying around a bar of soap he recently bought at CVS to wash his hands at work.

Before the sudden collapse of the economy, a booming construction business in New York City over the past decade had helped [transform the skyline](#), erecting soaring skyscrapers south of Central Park, in Midtown Manhattan and on the Far West Side of Manhattan.

But now, while the well-off who will eventually occupy many of those buildings stay home, construction workers say they face an agonizing choice. If they refuse to work, they could lose their jobs during a cratering economy. But if they do work, they worry about contracting the virus and spreading it to their families.

Some construction workers and their relatives have used social media to pressure Mr. Cuomo to exempt the construction industry from the list of essential workers.

Using the hashtag #StopConstruction, they have posted photos of construction workers in tight quarters.

Some work sites in New York and outside the city have shut down.

In Lower Manhattan, Facebook plans to stop all construction on an office renovation after a construction worker recently tested positive for the coronavirus.

The person will not return to work until they are cleared by a doctor, a Facebook spokeswoman said.

“Our general contractor has taken all necessary precautionary measures, following the advice of public health officials, as we prioritize everyone’s health and safety,” the spokeswoman, Jamila Reeves, said.

But many more construction sites are still active.

Last Friday, shortly after Mr. Cuomo issued the stay-at-home order, the roughly 400 construction workers at the sprawling Legoland New York Resort in Goshen, N.Y., about 50 miles north of New York City, were told they would be out of their jobs.

But they were hired back on Monday after it became clear that the governor’s order would allow for all types of construction to continue, said Todd Diorio, the business manager at Laborers Local 17.

Mr. Diorio said construction managers at Legoland had taken extra precautions to protect workers. They eliminated shared lunch areas and have advised workers to spread apart.

Construction workers, he said, would likely start a new schedule in the coming days and split into two shifts, with an hour-break in between so that the job site can be disinfected.

Workers would also have their temperatures taken before they were allowed onto the site.

“These are different times,” Mr. Diorio said. “We are taking every precaution that we can.”

In Montclair, an upper middle-class suburb in New Jersey, crews of workers in hard hats and fluorescent green vests congregated at two commercial building sites on Tuesday morning.

Police cruisers were parked with their lights flashing to divert traffic, of which there was none.

On one of the sites, slated to be a parking garage, a worker stood in a trench that was being dug by another man operating a small excavator. The garage is part of a 2½-acre project that will include apartments, offices and a performance space.

A woman whose father is a 58-year-old carpenter in New York City said she was worried about the health of her father and mother, whose immune system is compromised. Her father, who has a history of heart disease, is working on an office renovation in Manhattan.

“Both of them are high-risk individuals if they contract Covid-19,” said the woman, Katherine, who asked that her surname not be published because she feared retribution against her father, who shares the name.

“His job, like almost all construction jobs, relies on a series of contracts between the general contractor and the subcontractors, so the job site will not shut down until the governor mandates it,” she said.

On Monday, at least 20 carpenters walked off the job site at the Hard Rock Hotel in Manhattan after news was shared about workers who had tested positive for the virus.

A carpenter on the project said workers had been given no extra protective gear.

The construction site, on West 48th Street between Sixth and Seventh Avenue, was shut down on Tuesday and Wednesday to be disinfected, the worker said.

“Everyone is coughing and sneezing all the debris we are breathing in on a daily basis,” the carpenter said. “I’m scared to come to work.”

Patrick McGeehan contributed reporting.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/25/nyregion/coronavirus-nyc-construction.html>

## **CONSTRUCTION MASKS CAN BE USED IN HOSPITALS NOW!....**

### **NY TIMES...‘At War With No Ammo’: Doctors Say Shortage of Protective Gear Is Dire...**

**The lack of proper masks, gowns and eye gear is imperiling the ability of medical workers to fight the coronavirus — and putting their own lives at risk.**

[https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/19/health/coronavirus-masks-shortage.html?fbclid=IwAR3I5F8ewbRmkq6isrl8bBgbQaycE\\_idcSHRqgLDs2yg5hMFS2fuSdJ-2io](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/19/health/coronavirus-masks-shortage.html?fbclid=IwAR3I5F8ewbRmkq6isrl8bBgbQaycE_idcSHRqgLDs2yg5hMFS2fuSdJ-2io)

By [Andrew Jacobs](#), [Matt Richtel](#) and [Mike Baker](#)

March 19, 2020

The Open Cities Community Health Center in St. Paul, Minn., is [considering shutting down](#) because it doesn’t have

enough face masks. Doctors at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis are performing invasive procedures on coronavirus patients with loose fitting surgical masks rather than the tight respirator masks recommended by health agencies. At a Los Angeles emergency room, doctors were given a box of expired masks, and when they tried to put them on, the elastic bands snapped.

With coronavirus cases soaring, doctors, nurses and other front-line medical workers across the United States are confronting a dire shortage of masks, surgical gowns and eye gear to protect them from the virus. In interviews, doctors said they were increasingly anxious, fearing they could expose not only themselves to the virus, but their families and others.

“There’s absolutely no way to protect myself,” said Dr. Faezah A. Bux, an anesthesiologist in central Kentucky who in recent days had to intubate several elderly patients in respiratory distress without [the respirator masks](#) and protective eye gear recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. “Not only can I not protect myself, I can’t protect my patients.”

At a White House briefing on Thursday, President Trump said millions of masks were in production and that the federal government had made efforts to address the shortages, though he did not provide details. But he said it was largely up to governors to deal with the problem.

“The federal government’s not supposed to be out there buying vast amounts of items and then shipping,” Mr. Trump said. “You know, we’re not a shipping clerk.”

While doctors grappled with supply problems, the State Department advised Americans who are abroad to either come home now or plan to stay overseas until the pandemic is under control. In Italy, the death toll is now more than 3,400, a higher number of fatalities than even in China.

In the United States, the number of reported cases grew to more than 11,000 on Thursday, as Senate Republicans released a plan that would provide checks of up to \$1,200 for many taxpayers and Gov. Gavin Newsom of California issued an order that state residents “stay at home.”

The president also said there were no immediate plans to address medical equipment shortages by activating the Defense Production Act, a Korean War-era law that authorizes presidents to take extraordinary action to force American industry to ramp up production of equipment needed for national security.

“We hope we are not going to need it,” he said.

The president’s optimistic statements contrasted starkly with the situation on the ground, particularly in Washington and New York, the states with the largest number of coronavirus cases.

Earlier this week, administrators informed doctors at Memorial Sloan Kettering in Manhattan that they were down to one-week supply of respirator masks, but working to get more, according to a physician familiar with the situation.

Rebecca Bartles, who heads infection prevention efforts for the [Providence St. Joseph](#) hospital chain based in Washington, said it was only a matter of days before some of the system’s 51 hospitals and 800 clinics run out of personal protective equipment — a situation that imperils the nation’s ability to respond to a pandemic still in its early stages.

“We’re on mile one of a marathon,” she said, adding, “what does mile 25 look like?”

Health care workers’ fears are not abstract. Two emergency room doctors in New Jersey and Washington have been [hospitalized in critical condition](#), dozens of other health care workers across the country have [already fallen ill](#) and hundreds have been [forced into quarantine](#).

“We are at war with no ammo,” said a surgeon in Fresno, Calif., who said she had no access to even the most basic surgical masks in her outpatient clinic and has a limited supply of the tight-fitting respirator masks in the operating room. Like many doctors interviewed, she asked not to be quoted by name, worried about retribution from administrators for speaking out.

Federal health officials [say respirator masks can be used for eight hours of continuous or intermittent use](#) and should be discarded after treating an infected patient. Many doctors around the country said they are being given just one, to use indefinitely, and they spray it down with Lysol or wipe it off, not knowing whether that will help preserve it.

Many doctors and nurses say their fears and frustrations have been compounded by guidance from the C.D.C. that they consider unclear and misleading. Recently it changed its guidance to say that regular surgical masks are “an acceptable alternative” when examining or treating a coronavirus patient. The change came given the shortages of the special N95 respirator masks. They get their name because they can filter out 95 percent of all airborne particles when used correctly.

The agency says that such masks remain essential for doctors during intubations, which involve inserting a breathing tube down a patient’s throat. It is a procedure that can more easily spread disease.

While some infectious disease doctors defend the guidelines — noting that surgical masks and protective eyewear are sufficient for everyday patient exchanges — others argue the new recommendations are borne of political expediency instead of science. The American Nurses Association said the guidelines were creating confusion among its members over how to stay safe.

“We are concerned that C.D.C. recommendations are based solely on supply chain and manufacturing challenges,” the association [said in a letter](#) to Congress. “It’s also concerning that these recommendations do not offer strategies to address the limited manufacturing and supply chain of necessary personal protective equipment.”

In an email, the agency acknowledged the shortages, but did not respond to questions about doctors’ concerns over its guidance.

Howard K. Mell, a spokesman for the [American College of Emergency Physicians](#), said the crisis requires decisive federal action. He urged the White House to ramp up production of medical gear through the Defense Production Act powers, and he called on federal authorities to increase distributions from the Strategic National Stockpile, a repository of critical medical supplies for public health emergencies.

The stockpile has roughly 12 million N95 masks and 30 million surgical masks. The Department of Health and Human Services, which oversees the stockpile, did not return emails requesting information about the supplies. The department has estimated that the country would need 3.5 billion masks in the event of a pandemic lasting a year.

A cache of several thousand face masks and other gear from the stockpile recently arrived in Oregon and Washington. Officials in both states said it was far less than what they had requested.

“If this is a wartime situation, then now is the time to act,” said Dr. Mell, who is an emergency room doctor in Illinois.

In recent days, Dr. Mell said he felt helpless as he fielded desperate calls from emergency room doctors across the country. On Tuesday, he was surprised to find 10 boxes of respirator masks typically used by construction workers at a local Target store. With certain construction masks [temporarily approved for medical use by the F.D.A.](#), he bought the entire supply and is sending half of them to a doctor in the Bronx whose hospital has completely run out.

“Why on God’s green earth can I go to Target and buy these items when so many hospitals are running out?” he asked. “If they are available at Target, there are certainly more sitting at a distribution center somewhere. We need these in our hospitals right now.”

Several large hospital chains said they had adequate supplies for now, though they have taken steps to ration their use. The George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C., has told health care workers they can use a respirator mask five times before discarding it, and it is keeping its supply of masks under lock and key.

“We’ve experienced outright theft, with the general public walking into our building and walking right out,” said Bruno Petinaux, the hospital’s chief medical officer.

Smaller hospitals and nonprofit clinics, especially those that lack centralized supply operations, are moving aggressively to conserve their gear. In an effort to save precious supplies, Chatham Hospital in Siler City, N.C., is only allowing one doctor and one nurse to examine patients with symptoms of respiratory distress.

Some hospitals are employing more heavy-handed tactics. Saint Peter’s Healthcare System in New Jersey on Wednesday warned doctors in an email they could be disciplined for wearing masks when not examining patients.

On Thursday, volunteers with knives, rulers and masking tape gathered at the headquarters of Providence St. Joseph Health to cobble together face shields for the system’s thousands of caregivers. In Oregon, health officials in Multnomah County are calling on the public to donate any rubber gloves, goggles or face masks they might have at home or work. The county, which includes Portland, has little more than a week before critical supplies run out.

“Every pandemic is local so you have to pull on those local strings so we can help each other,” said Julie Sullivan-Springhetti, a health department spokesperson.

But with limited prospects for speedy government intervention, fear and anxiety continue to mount. In recent days, hundreds of medical workers have [taken to social media](#) with public pleas for help using the hashtag #GetMePPE. (P.P.E. stands for personal protective equipment.)

A doctor at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis described how she and her colleagues intubated a trauma patient they later discovered was likely infected with Covid-19. All of them wore simple face masks as they worked just inches from the patient’s face.

“I’m terrified,” she said, her voice cracking with emotion as she ended her shift. “I feel like it’s only a matter of time before I’m infected with this illness.”

## **WASHINGTON POST....Pence Asks Construction Companies to Donate Masks to Hospitals as Shortages Loom---**

## <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2020/03/17/pence-asks-construction-companies-donate-masks-hospitals-mask-makers-say-they-are-boosting-output/>

### **(THERE ARE CONSTRUCTION MASKS AVAILABLE RIGHT NOW....IF CONSTRUCTION WERE PUT ON PAUSE NOW.)**

By  
[Jeanne Whalen](#)

Vice President Mike Pence called Tuesday for construction companies to donate protective masks to hospitals, in a stark sign of dwindling supplies in the U.S. healthcare system.

“We would urge construction companies to donate their inventory of N95 masks to your local hospital and forgo additional orders of those industrial masks,” Pence said at a White House briefing. “Those industrial masks that they use on construction sites are perfectly acceptable for healthcare workers to be protected from a respiratory disease.”

Some hospitals and former health officials have reported low supplies. “Doctors in Denver where the virus hasn’t been yet say they are almost out of masks,” Andy Slavitt, the former head of Medicare and Medicaid during the Obama administration, [tweeted](#) Monday.

“Current mask producers could make more, and there are some dormant factories,” Slavitt said. “The government must tell them now that they will pay for them.”

Former FDA chief Robert Califf called for a World War II-style mobilization to produce more protective gear.

“We have a current shortage and a looming crisis,” he [tweeted](#). “Why not set up manufacturing sites like munitions and clothes in WW2 and pay people otherwise sidelined to mass produce?”

On Monday, Peter Navarro, a trade advisor to the White House, said mask manufacturer Honeywell had offered to produce more masks at a facility in Smithfield, R.I. “with a little help from the government.”

Honeywell said it could begin that production “within 30 days,” Navarro [told CNBC](#). Eric Krantz, a spokesman for Honeywell of Charlotte, N.C., said the company should finalize that contract with the government soon.

He declined to quantify how many extra N95 masks Honeywell could produce, saying the company doesn’t disclose production details “for competitive reasons.”

Jennifer Ehrlich, a spokeswoman for Minnesota-based 3M, said the company has increased production of N95 masks

at its factories in the U.S., China, Europe and Latin America.

She declined to quantify the increase, or to provide details on the resources 3M is dedicating to the effort.

"Manufacturing capacities of specific plants and products, as well as specific sales volume and customer information, are 3M confidential information that we do not publicly disclose," Ehrlich said.

3M is dedicating more of its output to healthcare workers than to industrial customers, she added.

Erica Lewis, a spokeswoman for Cardinal Health, an Ohio-based distributor of healthcare supplies, said the company's masks, gloves and face shields "are on allocation, which means that we will supply volume based on recent historic customer needs."

"Our mitigation efforts include building contingency plans with our existing suppliers, aggressively exploring new sourcing partners, and assessing capabilities and capacity within our manufacturing network to increase production," Lewis said by email.

A reliance on Chinese factories has exacerbated the supply problems. China's widespread shutdown of factories as the country battled its own [coronavirus](#) outbreak has stopped some protective gear from reaching the U.S. market.

Medline Industries, a healthcare distributor based in Northfield, Ill., said factories it relies on in China's Hubei Province, where the outbreak began, are now re-opening.

"After almost two months of a manufacturing hiatus, China re-opened manufacturing operations in the Hubei Province on March 10 as hoped," Medline spokesman William Berger said by email.

"However, the production ramp-up at these factories is expected to be slow. The result is a reduction in capacity and delayed shipments from factories."

"We have put in place inventory management programs and allocations to protect as much inventory as possible for our customers.

In addition, we are actively working on options to increase production in other areas of our global supply chain, while diligently monitoring the situation in Southeast Asia," Berger said.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2020/03/17/pence-asks-construction-companies-donate-masks-hospitals-mask-makers-say-they-are-boosting-output/>

Emma Riordan  
Los Angeles



City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

---

## Please Help

1 message

---

**Jose Vaquerano** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>  
Reply-To: ozotkd2001@yahoo.com  
To: clerk.cps@lacity.org

Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 5:43 PM

City Councilmembers,

I write this letter with a broken heart as family member of mine has been released of his job after the Chateau Marmont had advised its employees that their jobs were secured!! This is very unfortunate and disgraceful. It would be of great help if you our ELECTED officials can assist as this epidemic we are leaving through is not something we can control and therefore we deserve leverage in keeping our jobs. As elected officials you are for the people and therefore I urge you to please act on behalf of the people!!!

Much appreciated

God bless

Jose Vaquerano  
[ozotkd2001@yahoo.com](mailto:ozotkd2001@yahoo.com)  
11605 Gwynne Ave  
[Norwalk, California 90650](http://www.norwalkcalifornia.com)



City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

---

## Hotel Workers

1 message

---

**Caleb Crainer** <pastor@standrews-wla.org>  
Reply-To: pastor@standrews-wla.org  
To: clerk.cps@lacity.org

Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 6:30 PM

City Councilmembers,

Please help vulnerable hospitality workers in Los Angeles who already face so many challenges. Many of these people are depending on your advocacy to stay safe now.

Caleb Crainer  
[pastor@standrews-wla.org](mailto:pastor@standrews-wla.org)  
11555 National Blvd.  
[Los Angeles, California 90064](#)