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**March 30, 2020**

**For Immediate Release:**

## **City Passes Urgent Moratorium on Evictions**

**Commerce, CA** – During the March 25<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, the Commerce City Council unanimously voted to approve an urgent moratorium on evictions for non-payment of rent in the City of Commerce in response to the COVID-19 emergency.

“It is our duty to protect our residents and that means helping to secure housing during this crisis,” said Mayor John Soria. “This moratorium will help people stay stable if they are impacted by the economic damage the coronavirus is causing. It is imperative we provide support and resources to everyone in our city affected by the pandemic.”

The moratorium protects residential tenants from being evicted due to an inability to pay rent due to circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including loss of income due to a COVID-19 related workplace closure, child care expenditures due to school closures, health care expenses related to being ill with COVID-19 or caring for a member of the tenant’s household who is ill with COVID-19, or reasonable expenditures that stem from government-ordered emergency measures.

The order does not relieve tenants of liability for unpaid rent but puts a moratorium on evictions for non-payment of rent due to the impact of COVID-19 and includes provisions for eviction notices and no-fault evictions. The order staying evictions will remain in effect until the state of emergency is over.

For up-to-date information about the City of Commerce’s response to COVID-19, please visit <https://www.ci.commerce.ca.us>.

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