

MONTEREY COUNTY



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August 18, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Lisa Mangat, Director
California State Parks
704 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request for Monterey County Beach Closures on Labor Day Weekend Due to COVID-19

Dear Governor Newsom and Director Mangat:

On behalf of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, I write to respectfully request that all State beaches located in Monterey County be closed during the upcoming Labor Day weekend (Friday, September 4, 2020 through Monday, September 7, 2020) due to the potential spread of COVID-19.

Monterey County is a destination location for tourists from all over California, the U.S. and the world. During holiday weekends such as the upcoming Labor Day weekend, record numbers of tourists travel to our county to enjoy our mild climate and amazing beaches. While under normal circumstances we welcome travelers with open arms, the COVID-19 pandemic poses great risks with allowing people to gather on beaches.

As we anticipate a high number of tourists in Monterey County during the Labor Day weekend. It will be extremely challenging locally to monitor and enforce the wearing of facial coverings and 6-foot social distancing guidelines as the beaches become crowded.

To address this issue and safeguard public health, we request that you work with our local officials as soon as possible to close all State beaches in coordination with city beach closures over Labor Day weekend, as you did for the Fourth of July holiday weekend.

On behalf of the County of Monterey, we appreciate your consideration of our request and look forward to working together to keep our communities safe.

Sincerely,

Chris M. Lopez
Chair, Board of Supervisors

CC: Hon. Bill Monning, 17th Senate District
Hon. Anna Caballero, 12th Senate District
Hon. Robert Rivas, 30th Assembly District
Hon. Mark Stone, 29th Assembly District

California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
Rural Counties Representative of California (RCRC)