

**City of Merced**

678 W 18<sup>th</sup> St  
Merced, CA 95340

Date: April 2nd, 2020

**Attention: Frank Quintero – Director of Economic Development**

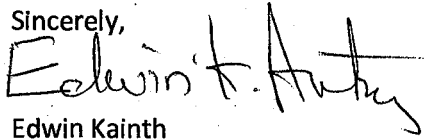
**SUBJECT: Payment Extension Requests for City Taxes and Fees Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT)**

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continues and grows exponentially throughout the entire State of California and globally. This is especially true for the hospitality industry. The hotel and lodging industry have been devastated with layoffs, furloughs, and closures, while graciously volunteering to help the industry through multiple volunteer opportunities.

**Due to all these factors, Merced hotel owners are asking their elected officials and Merced city/county government officials for at least a 90-day deferral of transient occupancy payments including any late fee or penalty. We hope this can bring us relief until July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020.**

To-date, Los Angeles, Anaheim, West Hollywood, Vacaville, and Yuba City have taken various actions to provide relief from transient occupancy tax payments with many other cities/counties considered this action. We hope City of Merced can help hotel owners with such relief for three months so we can survive with staffing and miscellaneous expenses to serve the industry as required.

Sincerely,



Edwin Kainth

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