

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Saturday, May 30, 2020 11:55 AM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on June 1, 2020 about Agenda Item 21

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Name: Paul Little - **Email:** **Phone:** **Address:**
Pasadena Chamber of
Commerce

Comments:

I appreciate the City of Pasadena finding a way to use CDBG funds to assist low-income renters.

It would be nice if your business community could be assured the City Council would support their needs, as well.

While Safer at Home orders are being revised to allow for in-store chopping, in-restaurant dining and more, the necessary and appropriate safety protocols demanding distancing, sanitizing and other precautions will make re-opening a challenge for many of your locally-owned small businesses. They need your support now.

We have consistently advocated for measures to provide a lifeline to your business community, through utility user tax and sales tax refunds and most recently with \$1 million in seed money for the Pasadena Small Business Relief Fund with the Pasadena Community Foundation. The longer any proposal languishes, the less likely funding will reach those shops and restaurants needing it to survive in business in Pasadena. Similar funds are up and running in communities across the country and up-and-down California. The model is in place in Monterey with \$1 million in city funding to begin the effort. Pasadena needs to act now to fund a similar program to save local storefront businesses here.