



OFFICE of the CITY MANAGER

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March 26, 2020
REF. 2020.072

City of Gardena Adopts Urgency Ordinance No. 1819 to Establish a Temporary Moratorium on the Eviction of Residential and Commercial Tenants

The City of Gardena City Council adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 1819 on Thursday, March 26, 2020, establishing a temporary moratorium on the eviction of residential or commercial tenants who are unable to pay rent due to the impacts of COVID-19. The intention of this ordinance is to avoid the unnecessary displacement of tenants during this state of emergency.

Pursuant to the Governor's statewide "Stay at Home" Executive Order effective March 19, 2020, all non-essential services and businesses have closed. As a result, workers are experiencing loss of wages due to business closures, layoffs, or medical costs. This ordinance shall expire when the Governor's Executive Order is no longer in effect.

To take advantage of the protections provided in Urgency Ordinance No. 1819, residential and commercial tenants are required to do the following within 30 days after the rent is due:

1. Notify the landlord in writing of the substantial COVID-19 related financial impacts
2. Provide documentation in writing establishing substantial COVID-19 related financial impacts
3. Pay the portion of rent that the tenant is able to pay

If tenants have the means to continue paying rent, they are expected to do so. Please be advised that this ordinance does not intend to waive a tenant's obligation to pay back rent owed once this ordinance is no longer effective. A tenant will have up to 120 days after the expiration of this ordinance to pay the unpaid rent that is due.

The City of Gardena recognizes the inconveniences of the COVID-19 pandemic throughout our community. We are doing everything we can to alleviate the burden we are all experiencing during this health crisis.

Sincerely,

Clint Osorio
City Manager