

Esmeralda★Soria

Fresno City Councilmember District 1

*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

Councilmember Soria Introduces Relief Fund To Assist Fresno Families Impacted By The COVID-19 Pandemic

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FRESNO, CA – Councilmember Esmeralda Soria introduces a resolution for Council consideration to appropriate \$1.5 million to the Fresno COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund and an additional \$1 million to the Save Our Small Businesses program.

On Thursday, April 23, 2020, the Fresno City Council will consider providing additional funding to the Save Our Small Business Program and creating a Consumer Grant Program that will provide support to those who cannot pay their rent or cover their basic needs during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Recognizing that many businesses have not received any stimulus funding such as Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) assistance and are in danger of permanently closing their doors, we as a city must step up and provide support for these businesses.

The COVID-19 Consumer Grant Program will be available to households that meet eligibility criteria. Consumer grants may be awarded in the following amounts: \$400 per individual; \$800 per couple or single parent with children; \$1,000 for a family with multiple adults and children.

The Consumer Grant Program will provide a bridge for many who are waiting on state or federal funding, and for others it will be their only source of relief, as many residents, like farmworkers and some DACA healthcare workers, categorized as “Essential Workers” are ineligible for relief under the Federal stimulus bill.

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