

Tammy Cloud-McMinn

From: Mary White <mary.white@carlsbadperformingarts.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 1:56 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Questions for today's meeting 7/28/20

DISTRIBUTED DURING PUBLIC
COMMENT AT COUNCIL
MEETING OF 7/28/2020

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Mary White, Owner/Director Carlsbad Performing Arts Academy
Re: Youth Dance & Performing Arts

My name is Mary White. I am a Carlsbad native as well as small business owner of a local company, Carlsbad Performing Arts Academy (est. 2009). We are a youth dance sports and performing arts education organization. I am working diligently to keep my members engaged through online platforms, but know that in person instruction would be a huge asset to the youth in our Carlsbad community. We have established a strict protocol of 6 feet expiration and mask wearing at all times prior to this last closure and are now working on strategizing on how we can safely move outdoors.

I am wondering if the city is planning to offer support to youth organizations such as mine that are in desperate need to move outdoors in order to stay in business? Are there grants available or a waiving of fees for public park use, such as the city of San Diego and Poway are doing with their "Share our Spaces"? Or are there any potential funding for the cost of equipment needed to move affected business facilities outdoors?

My main concern is, we have many businesses who are staples in our community that are part of many children's lives and they may not survive the duration of this shutdown without the assistance of its city and our community. If we position our city's businesses to have the support it needs, be it through outdoor venue options and/or funding, businesses still affected by the shut down will not have the financial support they need in order to operate safely and be able to weather the storm of this unprecedented time in history. Without the city's support, businesses, such as mine, all of which have invested many years in our community may be forced to close. Is it worth the city looking at what it can allocate to help them?

I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter as I know it is so challenging for many. I am honored to be a Carlsbad resident and business owner in a community in which my family has resided and owned/operated businesses in for the last 40 years. My hope is to continue this history with my own daughters, and I know that if any city can help its people get through this time, it's Carlsbad.

Warmly,
Mary

Mary White / Founder/Artistic Director

**CO CARLSBAD PERFORMING
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