

From: [Karie Bennett](#)
To: [BoardOperations](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Comment for this Monday's Board of Supervisors Meeting and Board Policy Committee Meeting
Date: Sunday, June 7, 2020 9:08:18 PM

The practical reality of these prolonged lockdowns are underground salon services going house-to-house, kitchen-to-kitchen, spreading more than just good cheer and great beauty services! So if flattening the contagion curve is the goal, allow responsible salons to reopen NOW! We have State Board regulations far stricter than restaurants, summer camps, and gyms, and they were allowed to open.
Please let Santa Clara salons open before the end of June. Thank you.

Positively Yours,
Karie Bennett
Founder and Master Artist
Peace. Love. Great Hair.
ateliersalon.com



On Fri, Jun 5, 2020 at 7:08 PM Karie Bennett <karie@ateliersalon.com> wrote:

Hi, I'm hoping to have a chance to speak at your meeting as an employer of 48 salon professionals who work at Atelier Studio, located at Santana Row, and Atelier Salon, in Willow Glen.

To be clear, all of our hairstylists are employees. No one rents a chair with us. They all have benefits, both mandated and not, and we pay all taxes due.

They are all on unemployment plus stimulus.

Our business does not receive anything like unemployment. We paid out of pocket for all of the required PPE and made changes to our space to accommodate social distancing and sanitizing at the highest level. And we are having a hard time getting grace on rent. When we do get to open, we will be at 40-50% of our previous capacity and revenue.

So getting back open is important for the business as well as the customers.

The longer we aren't able to open in a regulated and compliant manner, the more risky the behavior gets of independent, cash-only hairstylists who didn't get unemployment and are making house calls or operating in their salons behind curtains and covered windows.

I understand that there may still be new cases of COVID showing up...ask these patients if they have had their hair done by anyone outside the home since salons closed mid-March. It would be interesting to know if they had.

Besides the financial benefit of getting salons reopened in Santa Clara County, there is a huge emotional benefit to the community. Having your hair done lifts the spirits. What could possibly lift our fellow man and woman out of the doldrums this extended Shelter in Place has created but having your haircut or having those gray roots covered!

Please don't let our closures extend into July. We are ready by June 15 to welcome our clients back into our salons with an abundance of care and safety.

I hope you find my point of view helpful. Please feel free to call me if you would like to talk further.

Positively Yours,
Karie Bennett
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From: [Karie Bennett](#)
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Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment for this Monday's Board of Supervisors Meeting and Board Policy Committee Meeting
Date: Friday, June 5, 2020 7:08:33 PM

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