

## IRMA Glidden

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**From:** Jacqueline Barden <jacquelinebarden@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2020 7:01 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Item 2020-7862, City Council Meeting of April 7, 2020

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Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Honorable members of the City Council,

I am a long-time resident of Alameda and a renter. I have the great fortune in this time of being able to work from home and continue to pay my rent. However many of my neighbors are not so fortunate. They are hard-working people who never envisioned the exigent circumstances that have left them without the ability to meet the exceedingly high rent that we must pay as part of a Bay Area community. One of my neighbors is an amazing woman in her early 70s who is sole proprietor of a catering company that has been successful for years. As you can imagine, her business has been brought to a complete halt by COVID-19. Not only must she fear becoming infected, she now must fear becoming homeless as well. My neighbor and others like her have had all of the security that their hard work has built for them be swept out from under them. While we all appreciate the measures you have taken thus far in putting a moratorium on evictions, the span of the moratorium won't be enough to see them through. I respectfully request that you expand the moratorium to extend well beyond the shelter in place to give renters who have been harmed by their inability to work a chance to regain employment and earn a month's rent. I also ask that you require landlords to give them a period of no less than one year in order to bring their back rent current, and also that you institute a freeze on rent increases for at least a year as well.

As you are aware, 80 percent of Americans live paycheck to paycheck. Renters in the Bay Area often pay as much as half of what they earn in rent. Renters are being severely disadvantaged by COVID-19 and need more time to recover from the financial devastation that this pandemic is causing. They also need the security of knowing that they will not be made homeless by the pandemic as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration and your service to all Alamedans.

## IRMA Glidden

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**From:** Staci Lewis <stacilewis02@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2020 7:03 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Please read these comments to the City Council tonight

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Hello-

Please read the following comments outloud and on record at tonight City Council Meeting.

Thank you!!

-----BEGIN READING---

Good Evening Mayor, Vice Mayor and Councilmembers-

On behalf of my fellow Alamedians, I thank you for your leadership during these unprecedented times. We hope you and your families remain safe and healthy.

My family, like so many others, is facing extreme, and sudden, loss of income due to COVID-19. Last month, our household income decreased by more than 50%. To make matter worse, even though we applied three weeks ago, we have not received claim information from unemployment.

I thank you for passing Ordinance 3268 on March 17th, and am pleased the Council is considering the Urgency Ordinance, which I believe better protects renters. However, it does not do enough to ensure that renters, who are most affected by COVID-19, have the necessary time to recoup their loss of income and employment.

I offer the following THREE considerations to modify the Urgency Ordinance.

**1. Unless the City Council intervenes, landlords and property management companies will increase rent by 2.8% for their tenants struggling with unprecedented financial hardships from COVID-19. Therefore, I request the Council consider a freeze on rent increases for 2020 applying only to tenants experiencing a loss of 20% or more of their gross monthly income from COVID-19 disruptions.**

**2. Many tenants will need at least a year to repay rent non-payments, while also paying full rent, especially if tenants remain unemployed and their rent will increase by 2.8%. Therefore, I request the Council considers changing section 3 of the Urgency Ordinance to extend the substantive defense against non-payment evictions from 180 days to 365 days after the conclusion of the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**3. Given the time businesses will need to restart and pay their employees at the conclusion of the pandemic, I request that the Council considers extending the rent deferment policy to continue for 30 days after the City rescinds its declaration of local emergency, at the conclusion of the pandemic.**

Thank you for your consideration of my requests.

Best,  
Staci  
West End Alameda

## IRMA Glidden

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**From:** Stephen Bissinger <eggchairsteve@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2020 7:15 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Public comment for Urgency Ordinance on rent deferment

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Please read the below comments outloud, Thank you!

As a lifelong Alamedian, I am worried about my landlord's actions to evict me after the pandemic. I lost my job in March due to COVID-19, and don't know when I will get rehired.

The Urgency Ordinance, in its current form, it does not fully protect Alamedian renters through COVID-19-related financial hardships.

Therefore, I offer THREE considerations:

**1. Landlords and property management companies will increase rent by 2.8% unless the City Council intervenes. Therefore, I request the Council a freeze on rent increases for 2020 applying only to tenants experiencing loss of income from COVID-19.**

**2. Many tenants will need at least a year to repay rent non-payments, while also paying full rent, especially if tenants remain unemployed. Therefore, I request the Council considers changing section 3 of the Urgency Ordinance to extend the substantive defense against non-payment evictions from 180 days to 365 days after the conclusion of the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**3. Given the time businesses will need to restart and pay their employees at the conclusion of the pandemic, I request that the Council considers extending the rent deferment policy to continue for 30 days after the City rescinds its declaration of local emergency at the conclusion of the pandemic.**

Thank you!

Best,  
Stephen Bissinger

## IRMA Glidden

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**From:** Eric Gantos <eric@stuf-inc.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2020 8:06 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** April 7 City Council Meeting, Item 6-C

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Sent this afternoon for this event meeting.  
Can it be read tonight?  
Thank you,  
Eric  
Hello Mayor and Council Members,

I am writing in support of passing the moratorium on evictions ordinance that includes commercial tenants as well as residential tenants.

This measure will give assurances to businesses in the City of Alameda that they will also be able to maintain a roof over their head due to financial hardship caused by COVID-19. The moratorium will help many residents and businesses who may be struggling now to bridge the gap while waiting for concrete news and action plans regarding the economic relief and financial aid for all residents and businesses that are being coordinated at Local, State and Federal levels.

Thank you for your consideration and thank you for your hard work and governance during these unprecedented events.

Eric Gantos

Business Owner,

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