



A Better Way of Life

Town of Apple Valley

14955 Dale Evans Parkway • Apple Valley, California 92307

October 15, 2020

Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the Town of Apple Valley, I am writing to express our support for the “Blueprint for a Safer Economy” which establishes a method of reopening our communities in a safe manner for the health and welfare of all our citizens. It is our goal to adhere to the reopening tiers based on new cases, test results and health equity.

Our concern with the tier based reopening plan is that it is based on results from entire counties rather than communities. The County of San Bernardino is the largest county in the United States. We are 86 times larger than San Francisco County, nine times larger than Ventura County and more than four times larger than San Diego County. Each of these counties are currently operating at a less restrictive tier with similar or worse incidences of COVID-19, than many of the communities in San Bernardino County. Our County is geographically diverse with suburban communities, smaller mountain communities at high elevations and isolated desert communities that are all located several hours from other more densely populated communities within the County.

This geographic difference has resulted in smaller more isolated communities that have maintained relatively low incidences of COVID-19, from advancing to less restricted tiers under the “Blueprint for a Safer Economy”, causing significant economic harm to our businesses and residents. The Town of Apple Valley and the entire First Supervisorial District have had low incidences of COVID-19 for the duration of this emergency event. With the hotter and colder temperatures impacting the Town of Apple Valley and the First District, we believe it is imperative that more businesses be permitted to operate indoors in accordance with the guidelines included in the less restrictive tiers. Based on our research, as of October 7, 2020 the Town of Apple Valley and the First District would qualify for the “Orange Tier – Moderate Risk” and possibly the “Yellow Tier – Minimal Risk” which would have allowed nearly all businesses in the Town and First District to operate in a reasonable manner.

We all want to ensure an efficient and safe reopening of California. We respectfully request that the State of California recognize the varying COVID-19 experiences in the communities of the County of San Bernardino and therefore designate sub-regions or the use of “Districts” of the County of San Bernardino for the purpose of determining tiered designations under the State’s “Blueprint for a Safer Economy.” We ask that you consider the needs of our businesses and activities to operate at greater capacity in smaller, more isolated communities that have a low incidence of COVID-19.

If you have any questions regarding this request or please contact Town Manager Doug Robertson at drobertson@applevalley.org or 760-240-7000, ext. 7051.

Sincerely,

**TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**



**Scott Nassif
Mayor**

Attachment: Resolution No. 2020-53

cc: Laura Morales, Regional Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities
League of California Cities (cityletters@cacities.org)
Niemela Pappas & Associates
San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-53

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING A TIERED DESIGNATION UNDER THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S "BLUEPRINT FOR A SAFER ECONOMY" BY RECOGNIZING THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO BY SUB-REGION RATHER THAN AS ONE COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSES OF REOPENING

WHEREAS, the State of California has established its "Blueprint for a Safer Economy" that assigns all California counties to one of four business reopening tiers based on its actual COVID-19 experience with regard to new cases, test results, and health equity; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Bernardino is the largest county in the United States, and is nearly the size of the State of West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Bernardino is nearly twice as large as Inyo County, the second largest county in California; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Bernardino is 86 times larger than San Francisco County, nine times larger than Ventura County, and more than four times larger than San Diego County, all of which are currently operating at a less restrictive tier with similar or worse incidences of COVID-19 than many communities in the County of San Bernardino; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Bernardino is a geographically diverse county, with large suburban communities in the Los Angeles metro area, smaller mountain communities at high elevation and considerable distance from other populated areas, and isolated desert communities located several hours from other more densely populated communities in the county; and

WHEREAS, higher incidences of COVID-19 in more densely populated areas of the County of San Bernardino are preventing many of the smaller, more isolated communities in the county with relatively low incidences of COVID-19, such as in the First Supervisorial District, from advancing to less restrictive tiers under the "Blueprint for a Safer Economy", thereby causing significant economic harm in these communities with no significant public health benefits for these communities; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Apple Valley and the entire First District have experienced relatively low incidences of COVID-19 for the duration of this emergency event; and

WHEREAS, with the hotter and colder temperatures impacting the Town of Apple Valley and the First District, it is imperative that more businesses be permitted to operate indoors in accordance with guidelines included in the less restrictive tiers in the "Blueprint for a Safer Economy"; and

WHEREAS, as of October 7, 2020, it is likely that the Town of Apple Valley and the First District would qualify for the "Orange Tier" (reflecting moderate risk) and perhaps the "Yellow Tier" (reflecting minimal risk), which would allow nearly all businesses in the Town of Apple Valley and the First District to operate in some reasonable manner.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Town Council does hereby request the State of California recognize the unique geography of the County of San Bernardino.

Section 2. That the State of California recognize the varying COVID-19 experiences in the communities within the County of San Bernardino.

Section 3. That the State of California recognize the need for businesses and activities to operate at greater capacity in smaller, more isolated communities with a relatively low incidence of COVID-19.

Section 4. That the State of California designate sub-regions, or Districts, of the County of San Bernardino for the purpose of determining tiered designations under the State's "Blueprint for a Safer Economy".

Section 5. That the Town Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Town Council of the Town of Apple Valley this 13th day of October 2020.

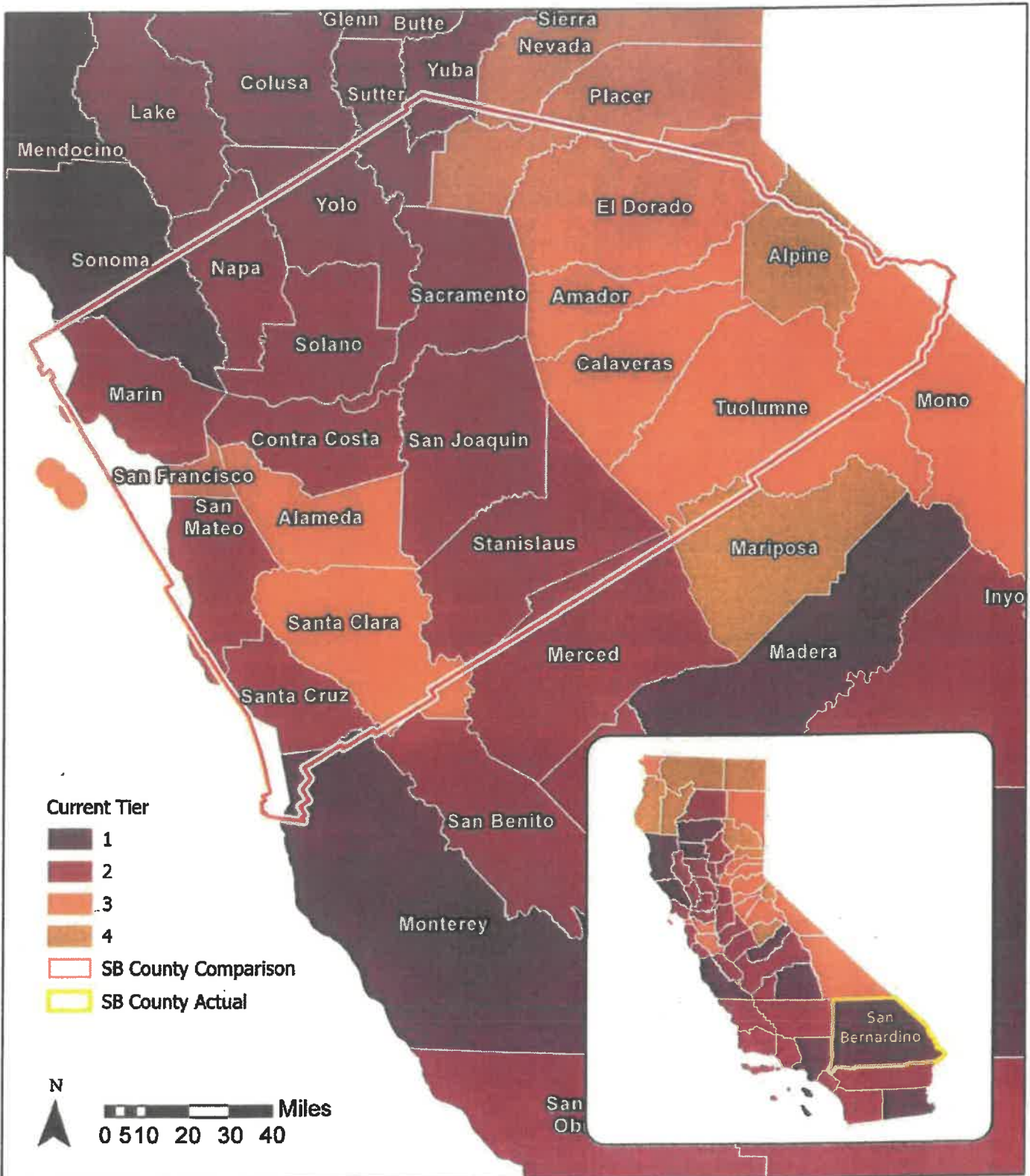


Scott Nassif
Mayor

ATTEST:



La Vonda M-Pearson
Town Clerk



Brandon Cales, CGCIO, GISP | Dept. of Innovation and Technology | Printed 2020-10-14



Size Comparison of San Bernardino County to Northern Counties - Blueprint Tier -

Town of Apple Valley
Resolution No. 2020-53

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY

I, LA VONDA M-PEARSON, Town Clerk for the Town of Apple Valley, Apple Valley, California, do hereby certify that Resolution No. 2020-53, duly and regularly adopted by the Town Council at a meeting thereof held on the 13th day of October 2020 by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Bishop, Cusack, Leon, Mayor Pro Tem Emick, Mayor Nassif.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Town of Apple Valley, California, this 14th day of October 2020.

LA VONDA M-PEARSON, CMC
TOWN CLERK

By:



Yvonne Rivera, Deputy Town Clerk

(SEAL)

