



# BOROUGH OF POINT PLEASANT

## OCEAN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

May 27, 2020

Hon. Philip Murphy  
Office of the Governor  
PO Box 001  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Governor Murphy,

Over the course of the last few months, the citizens of our State have proven to be compassionate and caring beyond compare. The acts of kindness and charity that our schools, private citizens, service groups and businesses have shown towards one another and the unfaltering level of support we have for each other is inspiring.

No one can dispute the seriousness of COVID-19 and the necessity of having precautions to prevent the further spread of this disease. I believe these last few months have educated all of us on how to protect ourselves, our loved ones and others around us. While I understand the need for having to have temporarily halted our way of life, I believe it is now past time to re-open the State and let our businesses operate.

I am pleased you are finally loosening restrictions on businesses but there needs to be further leeway to let other operations open. I have relayed the concerns of our local businesses continually on our weekly Mayors' Conference Calls with your office. Many businesses including but not limited to hair salons and barbershops have also laid out smart and proactive plans to re-open with well thought out precautions in dealing with COVID-19. I have relayed these to your office and other State officials and have stated time and time again that not just Point Pleasant Borough's businesses, but small businesses throughout the State of New Jersey are smart and have the best interests of the community in mind but they need to re-open before it's too late. We are quickly approaching the point of no return and those businesses not yet open need a plan now. The 'possibility' of re-opening in the weeks to come is not enough, in a few weeks that 'possibility' may no longer be reality for many small business owners.

I am able to talk about this issue clearly as not just a Mayor, but also as a business owner myself. My company has instituted a great number of safety measures over and above what we are required to do dealing with COVID-19. I have talked to many local businesses through our Point Pleasant Borough Chamber of Commerce and they have been networking, sharing and helping each other create plans not to simply meet the needs of whatever requirements New Jersey will impose, but to go over and above to ensure not just compliance, but safety. My business fortunately was able to operate again as it is in the construction world, but many are not, and I feel their pain. I implore you to reach out to leadership in both parties, the State Chamber of Commerce and health officials to immediately allow these businesses to resume operations. They are ready and most importantly willing to do so with the understanding that it won't be business as usual. Have faith in them, they need it and won't let you or our State down.

Best regards,

Robert A. Sabosik  
Mayor, Borough of Point Pleasant