\*\*\*LOGO\*\*\*

DATE

Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor, State of California State Capitol

Sacramento, CA 95814

VIA E-mail: ExternalAffairs@gov.ca.gov

Dear Governor Newsom:

The <<INSERT LABOR GROUP>> thanks you for your leadership and efforts to protect and support Californians during this unprecedented public health crisis.

Firefighters, law enforcement, city staff, and city officials remain on the front line helping residents stay safe and in their homes, delivering emergency services, and supporting their local businesses and community organizations. However, as emergency costs continue to grow, city revenues to fund local services are plummeting. COVID-19 is having devastating impacts on city budgets and services statewide.

Based on a League of California Cities analysis that was released in April 2020, California cities are projecting a nearly **$7 billion general revenue shortfall over the next two fiscal years**. This shortfall will grow by billions of dollars as modified COVID-19 stay-at-home orders extend into the summer months and beyond. Nine out of 10 of cities will have to cut staff or decrease city services to residents, and nearly 3 in 4 cities report they may have to take both actions. Cities are required by law to balance their budgets, leaving many essential city services on the chopping block. This means fewer firefighters and police officers to answer emergency calls, delayed repairs to streets and roads, reduced garbage pickup frequency, and limited opening hours for parks and senior centers.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, members of <<LABOR GROUP>> have stepped up to protect and serve our community. [Add any specific details here.] In order to continue to be a full partner with the state in saving lives, protecting our communities, and ultimately recovering from this crisis, **we need your help.**

The <<LABOR GROUP>> has joined the Support Local Recovery coalition and we are calling on you to immediately support the following actions:

* Provide **$7 billion in direct and flexible state funding** to support critical local services and allocate CARES Act funding for all cities for COVID-19-related expenditures.
* Advocate to secure **$500 billion in direct and flexible funding from the federal government** for all cities nationwide to support critical local services.

The <<LABOR GROUP>> appreciates your consideration of our requests and look forward to further discussing in the coming days how together we can continue to best protect Californians and reopen our economy. Thank you again for your leadership and partnership during these uncertain times.

Sincerely,

NAME

TITLE

<<LABOR GROUP>>

Cc: Your Senator

 Your Assembly Member

Bismarck Obando, League of California Cities, SupportLocalRecovery@cacities.org