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**SANTA CRUZ APPROVES EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO PROTECT
RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL TENANTS**

Santa Cruz, CA (March 24, 2020) –At their March 24, 2020 Council meeting, the Santa Cruz City Council acknowledged the many individuals in the community that may be at risk of being unable to pay commercial or residential rents due to businesses being closed and employees losing income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To avoid further homelessness and loss of jobs and employment opportunities within the community, the Santa Cruz City Council approved Ordinance No. 2020-07, an emergency ordinance would prevent residential or commercial evictions for non-payment of rent as a result of economic losses related to the coronavirus pandemic. For additional details about the ordinance, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions sheet attached.

Additional resources for housing access, homeless assistance and up-to-date information on the City's operations and response to COVID-19 can be found by visiting:
www.cityofsantacruz.com/coronavirus.

If the Coronavirus outbreak has seriously disrupted a member of the public's ability to pay their bills, including their SCMU utility bill, they are asked to declare this to the City along with some basic contact information through the City's [hardship declaration form](#).

The City of Santa Cruz is the county seat and largest city in Santa Cruz County. The City serves over 63,000 residents with full services including police, utility, waste, recreation, and library programs. Santa Cruz is a Charter City governed by a seven-member Council.

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