



April 1, 2020

Mayor Catherine Blakespear and Members of the Encinitas City Council
505 S. Vulcan Ave.
Encinitas, CA 92024

Honorable Mayor Blakespear and City Council,

I am writing to encourage you to continue the beach closures currently in place in Encinitas. Your closures are consistent with those imposed on city beaches in Carlsbad and other cities across San Diego County. These closures help maximize the collective benefit of our efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19 and reinforce the message that people should stay at home and avoid crowded public spaces.

With the state beaches now under a “soft closure” in our cities, we remain a regional destination for beachgoers. Open beaches attract people to the coast, exacerbate the challenge of maintaining social distancing, and effectively put beachgoers, our residents, first responders and healthcare providers at greater risk of contracting COVID-19.

Since March 24th, the day our cities ordered the closures of our city beaches, the number of positive cases of COVID-19 have increased by 216% countywide, and the countywide number of new cases reported yesterday was 274% greater than it was then. In Carlsbad, we have seen a near doubling of total reported cases, and in Encinitas there has been a 300% increase. Now is not the time to relax these closures.

Please continue the Encinitas beach closures, and thank you for continuing to provide the courageous leadership required to ensure that we are doing everything within our power to protect the public’s health, safety and welfare during this incredibly challenging time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Hall".

Matt Hall
Mayor
City of Carlsbad

cc: Members of the Carlsbad City Council