



Dear Ballard Alliance Members and Partners -

I want to provide you with updated information regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. As you know, the situation is changing hourly and updates are flooding in from many sources. The Ballard Alliance is reviewing this information and will keep you informed in the days and weeks ahead with the most important information related to safety guidelines, as well as access to resources and tools that you can use to help your business and employees during this crisis. Please view the current available resources [here](#).

In addition, we are working aggressively to develop **marketing and advertising** strategies with the sole goal of assisting our Ballard businesses - both for the short-term during the outbreak and the long-term once government restrictions are lifted.

We will provide more information about these strategies as it becomes available. Furthermore, we are committed to keeping you updated as new information becomes available.

Thank you for your work to keep your employees, customers and our community healthy during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Mike Stewart
Executive Director

- Resources for Your Business and Employees -

City of Seattle Resources:

Mayor Durkan has [announced her initial recovery package](#) to small businesses. This package includes:

1. Deferral of B&O Taxes
2. [Expansion](#) of Small Business Stabilization Fund ([apply here](#))
3. Assistance to Access SBA loans (once it becomes available)
4. [Relief](#) for Utility Payments
5. New Small Business Recovery Task Force

The City of Seattle's Office of Economic Development (OED) is committed to responding to and supporting small businesses to mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19. As this is a rapidly developing issue, OED will be holding weekly webinars



to share new developments, hear about the impacts you are experiencing, and answer your questions.

The webinars will occur every Wednesday, from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. You can [register for the webinar here](#). A recording and notes from this webinar will be posted to OED's [Bottom Line blog](#).

State of Washington Resources

The Governor's Office has compiled this partial list of resources to support economic retention and recovery related to COVID-19 coronavirus. Please [click here](#) for more information about assistance related to finance and state taxes, exports, employers and workers, and insurance.

The Employment Security Department has taken action for businesses and workers affected by COVID-19. The department has adopted a series of emergency rules to relieve the burden of temporary layoffs, isolation and quarantine for workers and businesses. Please [click here](#) for more information.

Small Business Administration Resources

The Small Business Administration will provide Economic Injury Disaster Loans for small businesses impacted by COVID-19. The loans offer up to \$2 million in assistance for a small business.

These loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that can't be paid because of the disaster's impact. The interest rate is 3.75% for small businesses without credit available elsewhere; businesses with credit available elsewhere are not eligible. The interest rate for non-profits is 2.75%.

Our understanding at present is that the funds have been approved, but the disaster declaration needs to be finalized before the applications become available. We will share that application as soon as it becomes available. You can read the [full announcement here](#).

- Public Health Guidance -

As you know, the World Health Organization officially declared the novel coronavirus outbreak a pandemic, acknowledging that the virus will likely spread to all parts of the world. The head of the WHO also stressed that all countries can change the course of the pandemic.

Governor Jay Inslee ordered a prohibition on all gatherings of more than 250 people in King, Snohomish, and Pierce counties are prohibited. This order is in effect through the end of March. In addition to this prohibition on large gatherings, Dr. Jeff Duchin,



Health Officer, Public Health - Seattle & King County ordered the prohibition of gatherings of fewer than 250 people unless event organizers take certain measures to minimize risk. You can read more about limits on large gatherings and other emergency strategies from Public Health - Seattle & King County [here](#) and [here](#).

These measures are intended to slow the spread of the coronavirus and are in addition to the previous guidance, including practicing social distancing, teleworking, staying home if you are sick, and taking preventative hygiene actions, like washing your hands frequently.

Please [click here](#) for the latest COVID-19 information.
