

## Brenwynne Grigg

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**From:** Economic Stabilization  
**Subject:** FW: Suggestions for How CBJ Can Help Retailers Through CV-19: Draft 1

**From:** Eric Forst [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 24, 2020 11:42 AM  
**To:** Economic Stabilization <economic-stabilization@juneau.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Suggestions for How CBJ Can Help Retailers Through CV-19: Draft 1

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I am forwarding this email I received from a fellow businessperson to the whole task force please. Thank you.

### Eric Forst

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**From:** Sydney Mitchell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 24, 2020 11:06 AM  
**To:** Eric Forst [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Suggestions for How CBJ Can Help Retailers Through CV-19: Draft 1

Good Morning,

My name is Sydney Mitchell and I own Shoefly at 109 Seward Street in downtown Juneau. Given that CV-19 may be with us for a year or more, our way of doing business no longer works. As I create my Covid-19 Mitigation Plan as required by the State of Alaska, it is becoming clear that curbside pick-up and home deliveries are going to be an essential part of local retail for at least a year and probably long term.

The City & Borough of Juneau could enhance the success of retail shops in downtown Juneau by designating a curbside pickup PARKING SPOT per each city block with retail shops or restaurants that offer this service and is open regular weekly hours on a year-round basis. These spots would need to be 5 minute spots, or at max 10 minutes. Or if the city wants to designate several parking spaces for this purpose in one of the city parking lots, I suppose that would be better than nothing. The challenge will be that most shops will have limited staff, so the curbside delivery option needs to be within about 100 feet of their shop.

In addition to the curbside pickup parking spot, retailers are going to need access to a delivery parking spot as well, but most city blocks already have these spaces set up.

The City & Borough of Juneau could encourage local shopping with quarterly SALES TAX FREE days at retailers who do not sell groceries or liquor. Right now Juneau residents do not pay CBJ taxes when making online purchases. Alternatively, the CBJ could get aggressive with enforcing collection of sales tax starting with the Amazon, Ebay, and other large selling platforms. Leveling the playing field is something both local and state government could help with.

CBJ can also be vigilant with enforcing seemingly "small" infractions that include drinking from open containers, loitering and disturbing the peace in downtown Juneau. I do not feel safe in my own town and we need to start somewhere. I have donated to the "wet" housing and support many non profits doing the good work of caring for our community. I want our downtown to be safe and feel safe for women and children and all people. Right now, we have to provide safe haven to women when a screaming man stomps up Seward Street and this is not a great situation.

CBJ can do daily CV-19 disinfection of downtown garbage bins, or set up a program to provide supplies to businesses that could volunteer for this kind of activity. CBJ can resume street cleaning on a regular basis.

These are just a few ideas for how local government might partner with downtown retailers to create a sustainable business ecosystem downtown.

Thanks for your time and attention,

Respectfully,

--

Sydney Mitchell  
CEO & Shameless Shoe Hussy  
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