

**Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard Hospitality Communities Join Together to Express Their  
Fear They Face Economic Disaster if They Can't Re-Open for Business in Time for  
The Summer Season.**

May 4, 2020

To the Governor's Advisory Council,

We the undersigned members of the lodging community located on the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket **collectively represent the majority of economic activity on both islands**, in addition to construction and real estate. We are deeply concerned about the impact the pandemic is having not only on the health of our residents but on the economic viability of our businesses and on our communities. Our impending crisis was recently highlighted by the very serious financial plight of the Steamship Authority, who also earns all its income in the peak summer months. The boat line, our lifeline, has public funding support options - we do not.

Uniquely, **almost all of our economic activity occurs between the end of May and Labor Day**. The fragility of our tourism-driven economy lies in its seasonality and the reality that almost all of our businesses are small and family owned. It is within this very short window of time that island residents and business owners have their only opportunity to make a living.

As the season is soon upon us, it is critical that we begin to re-open and prepare our hotel, restaurant, and other tourism-based businesses to welcome guests. We understand and respect the need to phase the re-opening of our state-wide economy and support proper health restrictions. **If we lose the summer season the impact will be devastating to our island's economies and our businesses.**

We support the work being done by Governor Baker's office and the appointed reopening task force. We know the Governor's directives and order (when issued) will be fair and practical - **but we need guidance as soon as possible to when non-essential travel can resume and hotels and restaurants can re-open.**

**We seek the State's leadership in laying out specific re-opening guidelines and restrictions by May 18** so that local officials in our communities can consistently apply, support, and follow these restrictions and directives thereafter. These include:

- Gathering capacities
- Restaurant capacities
- Transportation capacities

**We are committed to following all new Commonwealth mandated protocols to provide a safe environment for both our employees and guests.** We are responsible citizens who are ready

and willing to tackle the challenge that lies ahead and prepare our businesses to adapt to new standards including proper:

- Social Distancing
- Hygiene Protocols
- Staffing and Operations
- Cleaning and Disinfecting
- Educating our employees and revising our operational procedures.

We ask you to give us a fighting chance to salvage what is left of the season and save our communities from economic collapse.

By the numbers:

Total Numbers 2018 -Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket combined:

- Spending by visitors: \$386,908,879
- Lodging & Restaurant Payroll: \$94,727,614
- Jobs Supported: 2,751
- State Rooms and Meal Taxes: \$14,023,801
- Local Room & Meal Taxes: \$17,697,821

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Diane Carr, Spokesperson for Martha's Vineyard Lodging Group [dianecarr@hobknob.com](mailto:dianecarr@hobknob.com)  
Jamie Holmes, President of Nantucket Lodging Association [gm@thenantuckethotel.com](mailto:gm@thenantuckethotel.com)

### **Martha's Vineyard Hotels and Inns**

Ashley Inn, Fred & Janet Hurley  
Charles and Charles Inn, Jefferson Davis  
Charlotte Inn, Gerret and Paula Conover  
Crocker House Inn, Jeff and Jynell Kristel  
Dockside Inn, John V. Tiernan  
Edgartown Commons, Maria Black  
Edgar Hotel, David Rosenberg and Jessica Rosenberg  
Harborside Inn, Gregory J. Mafcher  
Harbor View Hotel, Bernard Chiu  
Hob Knob Hotel, Diane M. Carr  
Hotel Ginger, Jamie Heath  
Kelley House, Scott Little

Lambert's Cove Inn, John and Keya Cain  
Look Inn, Frederick Rundlet  
Madison Inn, Mary Ibsen  
Mansion House Inn, Josh Goldstein  
Menemsha Inn and Beach Plum Inn, Bob and Sarah Nixon  
Narragansett House, Kahina Van Dyke and Claudio Casarotti  
Nobnocket Boutique Inn, Simon and Annabelle Hunton  
Oak Bluffs Inn, Erik and Rhonda Albert  
Pequot Hotel, Lisa Allen  
Summertime Hotel, Rob Blood  
Sydney, Christopher, Richard & Edgartown Inn, Charles and Anne Hajjar  
Vineyard Harbor Motel, Christine Thompson  
Vineyard Square Hotel, Wesley Doyle  
Winnetu Oceanside Resort, Mark Snider

### **Nantucket Hotels and Inns**

21 Broad, 76 Main, Rob Blood  
Anchor Inn, Tracy Edwards  
Brant Point Inn, Thea Kaizer  
Brass Lantern Inn, Michelle Langlois  
Century House, Roberts Collection, Terry Sanford and Jason Brown  
Centerboard Inn, Jessica and Joan Rosenberg  
Chapman House, Regatta Inn, Veranda House, Peter Brauer  
Cliff Lodge, Seth Bernstein  
Cliff Side Beach Club, Chip Cunningham  
Harborview Nantucket, David Holland  
Hawthorne House, Henry Sandford  
Hotel Pippa, Chris Skehel  
Jared Coffin, The Cottages and Lofts at the Boat Basin, Khaled Hashem  
Le Languedoc, #3 Hussey Street, Alan and Ann Cuhma and Neil and Eddie Grennan  
Martin House, Lisa Soeder  
Nantucket Inn, Scott Thomas  
Seven Sea Street Inn, Matthew Parker  
Ships Inn, Bob Moulder  
The Barnacle Inn, Suzi Kendall  
The Beachside At Nantucket, Karen Keelan  
The Carlisle House Inn, Jeneane Life  
The Carriage House, Haziell Jackson  
The Chestnut House, Christa Carl  
The Greydon House, Garrison Beale  
The Nantucket Hotel, Mark Snider  
The Periwinkle Inn, Gail Norton  
The Sherburne Inn, Karen Macumber  
The Summer House – Siasconset, Pineapple Inn, Peter Karlson

The Wauwinet, Eric Landt

The Westmoor Club, John Cowden

Union Street Inn – Waterfall Enterprises, Ken and Kevin Withrow

White Elephant, White Elephant Villages and Residences, Bettina Landt