



CITY OF MORRO BAY

CITY HALL

595 Harbor Street
Morro Bay, CA 93442

January 24, 2019

Congressman Salud Carbajal
2231 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Carbajal,

The United States Federal Government has been on a partial shutdown since December 22, 2018. Exceeding four weeks in duration, this is the longest shutdown in the nation's history, impacting over 800,000 federal workers, and numerous federal agencies. Basic government functions, like maintaining national parks or inspecting the national food supply for disease, have halted or dramatically reduced. Employees impacted by the shutdown are going without pay or assistance of any kind, with many required to work without pay, as their duties are essential. The shutdown is impacting our national and local economy, and with no apparent end in sight, has sent the stock market on a roller coaster ride of volatility.

U.S. Coast Guard personnel are working without pay across the country as a result of the shutdown. The U.S. Coast Guard station in Morro Bay, which employs over 30 young men, remains open to help keep our local waters safe for commercial and recreational boaters. These local Coasties remain dedicated to their mission, despite receiving no pay nor food and housing assistance, and are truly an inspiration to our community. Basic life needs, for themselves and their families, are being deprived by the shutdown, like all other impacted federal employees, and a swift solution is necessary.

The Morro Bay community has stepped in to help assist our local Coast Guard personnel and their families. Donations of all kinds are pouring in from individuals, non-profits and government agencies. This generosity will help address many of their basic needs in the short-term, but their mortgage and rent payments may not be met, because they are not receiving their government housing allowances. In addition, many businesses that provide services to the Federal government are losing critical revenue during the shutdown.

As such, it is critical that the White House and two branches of Congress formulate a compromise to restore funding and reopen all impacted federal agencies and restore pay for the employees. That way, these employees, particularly, our local Coasties, can have peace of mind while they work to keep us safe.

Therefore, on behalf of the City Council and community of Morro Bay, I respectfully request that your office work closely with your U.S. Congressional colleagues and the White House, in a spirit of cooperation and compromise to end the nation's longest Federal Government shutdown.

Sincerely,

John Headding, Mayor
jheadding@morrobayca.gov
805-909-9785