

# TALKING TO YOUR LANDLORD ABOUT COVID-19 IMPACTS ON YOUR BUSINESS

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## - THE GRAFFITO TEAM

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### WHAT IS YOUR PLAN?

- Make sure you have a clear, direct message + story to share with your landlord
  - Closing your doors and laying-off staff?
  - Staying open for limited hours/take-out service with government mandated hours and customer quotas?
  - Other plan?

#### Keep In Mind:

 Most small businesses are non "essential" and will close or limit service dramatically, so being able to convey the hardship (story) and having a tentative plan will be helpful.

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### WHAT TYPE OF LANDLORD DO YOU HAVE?

- The type of landlord you have will make a difference in how you approach the conversation with them and what they may be able to do for you.
  - Institutional: Corporate landlord that owns a large portfolio of "mixed-use" properties
  - Independent, real estate investment group: Owns a handful of properties around town
  - Independent, small mom and pop: Maybe owns 1-2 properties
  - Other

#### Keep In Mind:

 If the Landlord relies heavily on the retail rental income, this discussion may be different from an institutional landlord.

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## WHAT ARE YOU ASKING OF YOUR LANDLORD?

- What is your immediate ask of your Landlord?
- The situation is changing quickly and thinking through the initial "ask" is critical
- Landlords may struggle to make long-term commitments
- Landlords may want some knowledge of what other landlords are doing
- This is emotional on many levels for small business, but conveying strength/resilience and desire to open when this is over is really important

#### Keep In Mind:

 Asking for more than is reasonable at this moment may hurt the discussion. Landlords and tenants should commit to staying in touch to evaluate and the situation and its economic impact as events develop