



Sunwest Bank Pledges Continued Support to Local Businesses and Reassures Strong Foundation Amid COVID-19

Locations Will Maintain Standard Business Hours, Enhance Online Banking Platforms to Accommodate Growing Concerns Around Pandemic

Irvine, Calif. March, 20th, 2020 -- Sunwest Bank reassures local and regional businesses in the Western United States that it will be maintaining standard business hours across all branches in addition to enhancing their online banking capabilities and digital tools amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

As an essential business, Sunwest will remain open throughout the pandemic to fulfill customers' needs. Customers will continue to have full access to online banking, ATM machines and the branch network. Sunwest relationship managers are also available to assist customers with any banking needs, during this time and will remain so throughout.

"We understand the strain that this will have on business' and households everywhere and that financial support is crucial at a time like this," says Eric Hovde, Chairman & CEO. "Since January, our entire leadership team has been meeting regularly to formulate the best plan of action in response to this crisis. Our top priority is the health and well-being of our clients and employees."

"We keep a fortress balance sheet with higher capital levels and reserves than most of our peers," said Hovde. "We do this for difficult times like these, to make sure we can continue to care for our customers."

Sunwest plans to be a part of the SBA Loan package in whatever form the Federal Government passes it in, and will be extending those SBA services, loans and offers to clients and non-clients alike. This will include SBA Loans for working capital to carry fixed cost, loans to help carry payroll all with payment deferral plans available. Starting Monday, March 23rd go to <https://www.sunwestbank.com/SBA-Relief/> to find out more about the plans being offered.

While fear and anxiety have come over a significant part of the nation and world, Sunwest wants its customers to know, the bank is financially strong, and ready to help its communities and business.

"Our employees and clients are on at the forefront of our mind right now," Carson Lappetito, President, Sunwest Bank said. "We are taking the necessary steps continue to operate at full capacity. We have our pandemic plan activated. We were and are well prepared for this event."

For more Sunwest Bank news as it pertains to COVID-19, company announcements or current or prospective customer account details, please visit [sunwestbank.com](https://www.sunwestbank.com).

**About Sunwest Bank**

Founded in 1969, Sunwest Bank is a privately held commercial bank with more than \$1.3 Billion in assets. Headquartered in Irvine, CA, with operations in California, Arizona, Idaho and Utah; Sunwest is an entrepreneurial business bank with a long tradition of providing excellent service to entrepreneurs, privately held corporations, family offices, small-medium sized business and real estate developers throughout the Western United States. Sunwest Bank is a Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender. More information about Sunwest Bank and its full line of products and services is available at www.sunwestbank.com.