

1. **Lt. Governor McKee: Opening Remarks**
  - a. LG McKee opens the call with a push for using the CARES Act money for small businesses, impacted communities including police training (racial sensitivity, de-escalation tactics etc.), & education (there is an clause that allows the State to appropriate these federal dollars to small businesses impacted by COVID-19 & impacted communities)
  - b. Businesses have had increased costs occur due to the riots (one business showed LG McKee a \$7,000 invoice for plywood)
  - c. Note: this call is 1.5 hours
2. **LG introduces Joe Rodio, Legal Counsel to Lt. Governor McKee** (on for questions)
3. **LG introduces SBA Director Mark Hayward: Federal Update**
  - a. President Trump has signed the amendments on the PPP on June 5th; June 30th is still the last day for PPP approval & \$130 billion is still left
    - i. Listen for detailed updates around minute [30:00](#) & visit Treasury for more information [here](#)
  - b. Contact SBA: [RhodeIsland\\_DO@sba.gov](mailto:RhodeIsland_DO@sba.gov)
4. **LG introduces DLT Assistant Director Matt Weldon: UI Update**
  - a. Stats update: 245k UI claims; 65k PUA claims; 25k TDI claims
  - b. WorkShare is transitioning from manual to automatic to keep up with the claim load; see more information on WorkShare [here](#)
    - i. You should wait until you receive your WorkShare plan approval to implement your plan
    - ii. Business owners can email [LtGov20@gmail.com](mailto:LtGov20@gmail.com) to be connected with Director Weldon regarding WorkShare
  - c. Fraud: [dlt.investigations@dlt.ri.gov](mailto:dlt.investigations@dlt.ri.gov); if your claim has been stopped due to fraud, call 401-234-4280 & let them know you received a fraud notice or fill out this [form](#)
5. **LG introduces DBR Director Liz Tanner: Regulation/Reopening Update**
  - a. Almost 17k inspections done since Phase 2 started
    - i. Unannounced inspections will look at signage outside the store, screening customers/employees, sanitation efforts, plan if someone gets sick, & face masks usage for both employees & employers (12 item checklist; if you fail, DBR/RIDOH will complete up to 3 inspections-- fine will come after failing the 3rd)

b. Questions/Complaints: <https://dbr.ri.gov/critical/>

**6. LG introduces the Gift it Forward Panel ([RISmallBusiness.org](https://RISmallBusiness.org)) featuring:**

**a. Justin Gontarek of [OceanSide Graphics](https://OceanSideGraphics.com)**

- i. Has been donating sneeze guards to small businesses
- ii. All panelists discussed importance of uniting & showing up to General Assembly hearings, etc. to demand business-friendly legislation
- iii. Contact: [Justin@OceanSideGraphicsRI.com](mailto:Justin@OceanSideGraphicsRI.com)

**b. Chris Parisi of [Trailblaze Marketing](https://TrailblazeMarketing.com)**

- i. Updated [RISmallBusiness.org](https://RISmallBusiness.org) site has been launched; click “join the coalition” to register your business for free
- ii. Contact: [CP@TrailblazeMarketing](mailto:CP@TrailblazeMarketing.com)

**c. Lori Giuttari of Visual Thrive ([ShopLocalRhodeIsland.com](https://ShopLocalRhodeIsland.com))**

- i. RI business directory where businesses can register & create an online business card including promoting deals, gift cards, etc for free (linked through [RISmallBusiness.org](https://RISmallBusiness.org))
- ii. [Lori@VisualThrive.com](mailto:Lori@VisualThrive.com)

**7. LG introduces Small Business Panel featuring:**

**a. Dave Chenevert of Rhode Island Manufacturers Association (RIMA)**

- i. RIMA sent around a pledge and sent out information etc. at the beginning of the pandemic to keep RI manufacturers open during the pandemic (few states kept their manufacturers open)
- ii. RIMA has been a donation pickup site for the State as well as creating a co-op to purchase PPE at a lower price as many small businesses cannot afford to purchase it on their own
- iii. Submitted legislation to prevent small businesses from frivolous lawsuits
- iv. LG & David discussed the importance of using CARES monies to help small businesses avoid having to increase UI payments as they did in ‘08
- v. Contact: 401-751-0160 & ask for Deb or [mfg@rima.com](mailto:mfg@rima.com)

**b. Vanessa Palladino of Johnston Child Care Center**

- i. Newer business that has private pay clients (none are on CCAP, etc.); had loans prior & now has PPP
- ii. After reopening, less than half the clients came back

- iii. High payroll due to need of an increased staff on top of new regulation costs (had to use PPP before reopening)

**c. Jon Feinstein of Mount Hope Farm**

- i. Private nonprofit in Bristol; one of the largest wedding providers in RI; all have delayed or canceled
- ii. Purchased a large event tent to host socially distanced catering meals; the definitions of catered events, meals, restaurants, etc. has held up their approval process from DBR to host catered brunches etc.
- iii. PPP is running out; most revenue is from weddings & they give back to the community through volunteerism

**d. Rocky Kempenaar of Kempenaar Real Estates, Inc.**

- i. Had to furlough over 50 employees in his Aquidneck Island hotels
- ii. Information delay coming from the Governor's office has been hurting his industry (cannot market closed businesses/beaches/tourist attractions)
- iii. Summer is the Island's peak season, especially for hotels-- if they do not open by June 21st (1st day of summer), hotels will likely "be in the red" for the whole year

**e. Senator Lou DiPalma**

- i. Discussed how the CARES Act can appropriate these emergency funds at their discretion to impacted businesses; notes that on a national call with other state legislators, other states have been supporting small businesses with the CARES Act funding
- ii. Notes everything RI does now will benefit the State in the long term

**8. Lt. Governor McKee: Closing Remarks**

- a. LG McKee closes saying extraordinary measures are critical to take now because RI's recover will be long & difficult if the State does not help small business now

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8PSKQ4oYNE>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/383567298492823/videos/1140177809682835>