Dear Community Partners,

We write to provide our latest update related to the County’s COVID-19 response. Although the number of new cases were low and possibly shrinking in April and mid-May, we have seen recent upward growth. Some of this is due to increased testing, but some is due to increased community transmission. We also saw a minor uptick in hospitalizations, but that upward trend seems to have subsided. The Public Health Department will be watching these trends closely. We are seeing some current patterns, though, around geography and settings. For instance, 39% of positive tests in the past 3 weeks have come from eight zip codes in East San José and 11% have come from South County. Therefore, we will continue to focus testing efforts in these areas. We are also seeing troubling clusters of cases among construction workers. Public Health is working to determine whether the current construction protocols established through the Health Order are insufficient or if they are not being properly followed.

The good news is that our guardrails for helping keep the community safe—testing and tracing—are improving day by day. Our contact tracing and case investigation team is amply staffed to stay ahead of our current investigation levels. We have also realized that the epidemiological terminology around tracing, investigation, isolation, and quarantine can strike fear and confusion in some communities, so the County is working with community leaders to tailor messaging to improve understanding and build trust.

Our testing has also significantly increased. In the last few days, we have reached our goal of 4,000 tests a day, and more testing from our health system partners is partially responsible for that increase. Valley Medical Center’s mobile testing teams also make up a significant portion of that increase. Currently, we have four teams that can test up to 500 people a day and a smaller team that can test 150 people a day. Over the past 3 days, the mobile testing team has used popup sites to test more than 2,000 residents each day for a total of 6,391 individuals.

Santa Clara County’s strategy from the beginning has been to move forward incrementally then wait and evaluate before implementing a new phase. Since so many new businesses and activities were opened with the June 5th Order and our County has seen a number of large gatherings due to recent racial justice protests, we will be waiting a full three weeks (June 26th) before any new decisions are made. As counties across the Bay Area are now moving at different rates, the decision making becomes more complex, but our commitment remains to keep the residents of Santa Clara County safe, especially our most vulnerable communities.

**Pop-up Testing Locations for the Week of June 22**
The County of Santa Clara Health System’s mobile testing program continues to provide free diagnostic COVID-19 testing around the County. Nasal swab testing is free for everyone—no health insurance or doctor’s note is required. No appointment is needed; anyone can simply stop by to get tested. A list of popup locations can be found online here. As always, residents can find a testing location across the County at http://www.sccfreetest.org or by calling 2-1-1.

Locations and times for next week are as follows:

- **SAP Center (two teams):** 525 W. Santa Clara Street, San José  
  - Tuesday, June 23 through Friday, June 26 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
  - Saturday, June 27 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- **Andrew Hill High School:** 3200 Senter Road, San José  
  - Tuesday, June 23 through Friday, June 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- **Santa Clara Northside Branch Library:** 695 Moreland Way, Santa Clara  
  - Tuesday, June 23 through Friday, June 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- **Antioch Baptist Church (operated by Roots Clinic):** 268 E Julian St, San José  
  - Wednesday, June 24, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Statewide Mandatory Face Covering Guidance

This week the California Department of Public Health released updated guidance requiring Californians to wear a face covering in high-risk settings. The new State Order largely overlaps with the guidance in our existing local Public Health Order.

Californians must wear face coverings when they are:

- Inside of, or in line to enter, any indoor public space
- Obtaining services from the healthcare sector
- Waiting for or riding on public transportation or while in a taxi or ride-sharing vehicle
- In any enclosed area where people outside their own household are present and unable to physically distance
- Outdoors in public spaces when maintaining a physical distance is not feasible
- Engaged in work when:
  - Interacting in-person with any member of the public;
  - Working in any space visited by members of the public;
  - Working where food is prepared or packaged for sale or distribution;
  - Working in or walking through common areas;

The following individuals are exempt from wearing a face covering according to the State Order:

- Children aged two and under
- Persons with a medical, mental health, or developmental disability that prevents wearing a face covering
- Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication
- Persons for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person related to their work
- Persons who are obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service

**The use of a face shield with draping on the bottom is suggested, but not required, for those who can’t use face coverings and work closely with the public.**

It should be noted that there is a footnote in the new guidance that permits the exemption of schools and childcare centers. According to the Association of California School Administrators, School Reopening Guidance from California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the California Department of Education (CDE) supersedes this mandate. This statewide guidance recommends but does not require face coverings in the school setting.

That being said, the current Order for Santa Clara County requires students over age 6 at summer camps, summer schools, and childcare facilities to wear face coverings (see local guidance) which is being followed by our local schools. Around July 1, further guidance will be offered as to the opening of local schools and requirements for face coverings through a collaboration between the County Office of Education and the Public Health Department.

While there are some minor differences in nuances between the State and County Orders, there is only one notable difference between the two having to do with the age group covered. While the County Orders exempt children age 6 and under, the State order only exempts children age 2 and under. Though County officials have some concerns about children that young being able to effectively utilize face coverings, the State law must be followed. Furthermore, the County wants to be sure that residents know that face coverings are an important tool in limiting the spread of infection, but it is not a panacea. Other safety protocols such as physical distancing and good hygiene measures still need to be followed.

**Executive Order Extends Various COVID-19 Provisions**

On Monday, Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order extending a variety of policies and programs enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The order extends waivers temporarily broadening the capability of counties to enroll persons into the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, allowing for self-attestation of pregnancy and conditions of eligibility, and waiving in-person identification requirements.

The order also extends permission for commercially-licensed food trucks to operate in roadside rest areas, in compliance with a temporary permit issued by Caltrans, to ensure essential infrastructure workers have access to food; suspends face-to-face visits for eligibility for extended foster care; and extends deadlines related to the payment of real estate license application and renewal fees and continuing education requirements for licensees.

**SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans and Advances are Available**

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has reopened its application portal for the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), providing vital funding for businesses that may have missed the original application
period. The application and more information is available on the SBA website. Businesses must apply soon because funding is only available on a first-come, first-served basis. Small businesses may also apply for an EIDL “Advance,” equal to $1,000 per employee of the business (up to a maximum of $10,000), which may not have to be paid back. More information is available in a blogpost from the City of San José Office of Economic Development. If your business is in San José and you have questions, you can email: covid19sjbusiness@sanjoseca.gov.

**Reopening and Return to Workplace Planning**

Though we don’t know the timing of when some industries will reopen, the following organizations and government agencies have shared advice and guidance to help with planning efforts for future phases of the COVID-19 pandemic. As always, state and local health orders and guidance should be followed.

*American Industrial Hygiene Association:*

- Reopening Guidance for General Office Settings
- Reopening Guidance for Business Services
- Reopening Guidance for the Retail Industry
- Reopening Guidance for the Warehouse and Logistics Industry

*California Department of Education:*

- [Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools](https://www.backtoworksafely.org)

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:*


*Family Resource Roundup*

- CalFresh recipients can use their benefits online. SNAP EBT is available as an online payment method at [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com) (grocery delivery) and [Walmart](https://www.walmart.com) (grocery pick-up) so you can shop online from home. Additionally, CalFresh recipients can use their EBT card for an [Amazon Prime membership](https://www.amazon.com) at a discounted rate.

- Santa Clara County Office of Education has compiled a list of [child care resources](https://www.santaclaracounty.org) for those returning to work under the [June 5, 2020 Shelter in Place Order](https://www.santaclaracounty.org/coronavirus/shelter-in-place).

- First 5 Santa Clara County has set up a [Community Resources Directory](https://www.first5scfc.org) with summaries and links to different county resources. This page is available to view in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, and Tagalog.

- Families and children who normally qualify for free or reduced school meals, can apply for [Pandemic-EBT benefits (P-EBT)](https://www.fns.usda.gov/feeds) and receive one-time payment of up to $365 per child to spend on groceries during COVID-19 school closures. [Application](https://www.fns.usda.gov/feeds) deadline is June 30, 2020.
Household Hazardous Waste Program Resumes

The County of Santa Clara has resumed the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program following a hiatus due to COVID-19, allowing residents to schedule free drop-off appointments. For a nominal fee, qualifying small businesses can also make an appointment. As operations ramp up, the number of daily appointments is limited to ensure the health and safety of residents and program staff, so residents may experience dates further out than normal. Residents are encouraged to use retail takeback locations for quick and safe disposal of paint, batteries and fluorescent bulbs, sharps and medications. Visit hhw.org, or call 408-299-7300 for appointments and take-back locations.

SCC Superior Court Expands Court Services and Judicial Proceedings

The Santa Clara County Superior Court has begun a phased expansion of judicial proceedings and reopening of clerk’s offices in courthouses located around the county. Last week, Presiding Judge Deborah A. Ryan issued an order that restricts Court access to only those persons required to appear in Court for a hearing or to conduct official business with the Court. No other persons will be permitted entry to the courthouse without showing good cause. This order was issued to reflect that the Court is reopening clerk’s offices in several courthouses during the month of June.

On Monday, June 15, 2020, the clerk’s offices at the Hall of Justice Criminal Courthouse and the Family Justice Center Courthouse reopened for in-person official business with the Court. The Civil and Traffic Court clerk’s offices will reopen for in-person services on June 29, 2020.

The Court will be adding judicial proceedings and reopening courtrooms over the coming weeks and months. Misdemeanor hearings (in and out of custody arraignment/pretrial/motion) and Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) matters will recommence on June 22, 2020. All Juvenile Dependency courtrooms and all but two Family Law courtrooms will be hearing matters by June 29, 2020.

Case information, including upcoming hearing dates, can be viewed online by visiting the Court’s Public Portal. Throughout this expansion process, the Superior Court continues to observe and enforce social distancing requirements, including the use of proper face coverings for all persons who enter the courthouses.

San José Park Restrooms Now Open

Starting this week, most San José park restrooms opened. The restrooms will be cleaned according to their use. Most frequented park restrooms will be cleaned three times a day while less frequented restrooms will be cleaned once or twice a day, commensurate with their use. A few restroom buildings remain closed to the public as they are being used by children in summer camps. For a list of closed restrooms, visit bit.ly/prnscancellations. Drinking fountains remain closed until further notice. Park visitors are encouraged to bring their own water.

Survey for Girls About the Impact of COVID-19

The Alliance for Girls, the nation’s largest alliance of girl-serving organizations, is conducting a survey to identify the needs of girls and gender expansive youth during COVID-19. There is a gap in data on the unique needs and experiences of this group, especially during a time of crisis. Girls and young women
under age 24 can help close that gap by taking a five-minute confidential survey. Survey responses will be used to help the group plan its services and activities during the pandemic and in the recovery period. All participants will be entered in a raffle to win a $50 Target gift card.

**LIVE with the County of Santa Clara: Status of Hair Salons, Nail Salons, Spas, And Gyms / Community Q & A**

During Wednesday’s Facebook Live Briefing, Lead Public Information Officer Betty Duong talks with local nail salon owner Linda Do about the status of hair salons, nail salons, the personal care industry, and gyms continuing to remain closed in Santa Clara County.

During Friday’s Facebook Live Briefing, Public Information Officers Larry Little, Antoinnae Comeaux and Todd Naffziger answered questions from community members and business owners who have come to us via the Call Center, Website and Facebook.

LIVE with the County of Santa Clara is streamed Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays on Facebook Live at 10:00 a.m. on the Public Health Department Facebook Page.

**FAQs about the Local Health Officer Shelter in Place Order**

We make regular updates to the FAQ documents for our local Public Health Order as new information becomes available. Your constituents can access them in the following languages:

- [Shelter in Place FAQ-English](#)
- [Shelter in Place FAQ-Chinese](#)
- [Shelter in Place FAQ-Spanish](#)
- [Shelter in Place FAQ-Tagalog](#)
- [Shelter in Place FAQ-Vietnamese](#)

Please continue to monitor this situation closely. More information and regular updates can be found on the County website and the CDC website.

Any business, faith, nonprofit, or community leader with questions should contact cboliasison@eoc.sccgov.org.

Any school-related questions should be sent to schools@eoc.sccgov.org.

Thank you for your essential leadership during this challenging time for our community,

**CBO/Business Liaison**

*County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Center*

Website: [http://sccphd.org/coronavirus](http://sccphd.org/coronavirus)

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/sccpublichealth/](https://www.facebook.com/sccpublichealth/)

Instagram: [@scc_publichealth](https://www.instagram.com/scc_publichealth/)

Twitter: [@HealthySCC](https://twitter.com/HealthySCC)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Shelter in Place Order can be found [here](#).
Shelter In Place Order

https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/order-health-officer-050420.aspx

The County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Center
Social Media Toolkit: Testing and Face Coverings