

Julie Enea

Subject: FW: Covid Questions

From: Frank Miceli

Date: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 11:38 AM

To: SupervisorMitchoff

Subject: Covid Questions

Dear Supervisor Mitchoff,

Below I have summarized Dr. Farnitano's answers to my questions as posed in the July 16 Ad Hoc meeting. I have included my own [parenthetical] observations and questions, as well as a final paragraph leading to the central issue. Overall I am making an argument for a return to using hospital capacity as the metric that determines whether a lockdown should be imposed, just as we did in the beginning, when we spoke of "flattening the curve" to preserve hospital capacity. The public understood that reasoning; they do not understand the reasoning of today.

Please pose my argument/question to the County Health Officer at tomorrow's Ad Hoc meeting.

Thank you.

Best wishes,

Frank Miceli
Pleasant Hill

Summary of Dr. Farnitano's answers to some questions posed at the July 16 Ad Hoc Committee meeting.

With extensive testing underway the County has found 8.2 infections per 100,000 people

The County has 84 people hospitalized with the virus, 25 of whom (30%) are in the ICU. This percentage has come down from 50% in April. Reason? More of those found to be infected are younger and we know more about treating the disease.

The County has 1700 licensed hospital beds although only 1100 are staffed and funded [*What does this mean? One private hospital system alone has almost 1000 beds. It must refer to the County hospital, but wouldn't the beds be "staffed and funded" if needed?*] Of these beds, 200 are ICU beds

[*However we look at this, the County has far more hospital capacity than needed*].

In the last week the County's numbers appear to be stabilizing.

The County has experienced a total of 92 deaths from the virus [*This in a County population of 1.2 million*] Sixty four of these deaths (70%) were in congregate care facilities. At least 11 of the 25 outbreaks involved included more than three deaths. There have been only three workplaces with more than 3 deaths per workplace.

The County is locked down tighter than Fort Knox. Businesses are failing left and right; more business owners will give up if we continue to yo yo-- (close, open, close again). While the Covid effects are diligently tracked, as far as I know there is zero government effort to track the cost of lockdowns in terms of jobs, health side effects, criminal acts, excess deaths. I continue to maintain that we should go back to the original purpose of lockdowns--to "flatten the curve" so as not to run out of hospital capacity. Why we have either eliminated or minimized the importance of that metric I do not understand.