



AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT AND RECOVERY

THE RECORD OF ACTION FOR
NOVEMBER 19, 2020

Supervisor Candace Andersen, Chair
Supervisor Karen Mitchoff, Vice Chair

Present: Chair Candace Andersen
Vice Chair Karen Mitchoff

Staff Present: Thomas Warne, M.D., Deputy County Health Officer
Julie DiMaggio Enea, Senior Deputy County Administrator

Attendees: Lynn Mackey, County Superintendent of Schools
See Attendance Record, attached.

1. Introductions

Chair Andersen called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., welcomed the attendees, and introduced the Committee members, County Superintendent of Schools Lynn Mackey and Deputy County Health Officer Dr. Tom Warne.

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

All public comment was taken under Item #3.

3. RECEIVE status report on the September 14th Updated Health Order on Social Distancing, the State's new Blueprint for a Safer Economy and the related new equity provision, and on school re-openings.

Lynn Mackey advised that even though the County has been returned to the purple COVID tier, schools that were in the process of reopening do not have to close. Some private schools are in session and some of our smaller school districts were having students on campus prior to moving to the purple tier, and they can continue to do so by demonstrating that they can meet and maintain all the safety requirements. If they decide to shut down, then they will have to reapply for a waiver, or they will have to wait until the County moves back into the red tier. She offered to field any school-related questions from the public.

Dr. Warne announced that we are experiencing a very sharp increase in coronavirus infections in the County right now, possibly even a surge. CA and Contra Costa had been seeing improving conditions and decreasing infections up until about a month ago. Surges were initially reported in other parts of the country and then we began seeing it first in southern CA and now in northern CA. It's clear we are entering a period of increased danger.

COVID cases overall have doubled in California over the last 10 days to two weeks. Contra Costa's

case rate started this week was 9.2 and is not at about 11 (that's the average new infections per day per 100,000 population), which is double the rate of the prior week. Case rate is one of the measurements that determines our tier placement.

Our positivity rate is 3.6% this week, up from 1.9% about a month ago. The number of people hospitalized in CCC has increased substantially from about 100 in July, down to 20 and now back up to 55, which is of concern.

We are concerned that people will gamble with their own safety and their family's safety during the holiday season with extensive gatherings. He implored people to consider safe ways to gather, as gatherings increase risk of transmission. He recommends not gathering outside your own household. If you do so, then he recommends following social gathering guidance: outdoors, short duration, wear face coverings, involve no more than three households and 25 people. He suggests Zoom and Skype gatherings in favor of in-person gatherings.

He also reminded everyone that the State is discouraging holiday travel and recommending that out of state travelers quarantine for two weeks upon return to CA.

He described the County's prior progress from the purple to orange tiers and subsequent regression to the purple tier. He said the County began pulling back on reopening plans even before the State reclassified the County's tier, because the negative trajectory had become obvious. The State put what they call the "emergency brake" on the Blueprint, meaning they are going to check the data and adjust restrictions more frequently. The health officers support this action.

The major changes of regressing to the purple tier include: Social gatherings of more than one household must be held outdoors. Worship services, movie theaters, museums, restaurant dining, etc., must again move to outdoors only. Bars must be closed. K-12 schools cannot reopen unless they had already done so or had approval to do so. While this news is harsh, we still have hope with the vaccine trials, which show promise for the near future. Both vaccine trials exceeded expectations.

He encouraged people to be considerate of friends and family members and suggested getting tested prior to any holiday gatherings or travel. While this won't guarantee safety, it can reduce risk of transmission and is a smart added protection for loved ones.

He provided information about where to get tested: 13 community testing sites that are operated either by Contra Costa Health Services or three operated by the State, with very short waits and very quick turnaround for results via test message. Test appointments can be scheduled on line at <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/get-tested> or calling 844-421-0804. Testing is free; insurance is not required.

Vice Chair Mitchoff interjected that the Governor was expected to announce a curfew from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. that will probably take effect over the weekend. She clarified that the Health Officer and Contra Costa Health Services are not responsible for enforcing the curfew, should it be implemented.

Chair Andersen said the expectation is that the curfew will apply to the operation of businesses rather than individuals.

Dr. Warne observed that other states and Los Angeles have implemented curfews in recognition that non-essential activities need to be limited in the interest of public health.

He then reviewed the County's statistics on the Overview Dashboard, <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/overview>. Outbreaks in skilled nursing facilities, restaurant dining and social gatherings are driving the resurgence of COVID statewide. The recent policy changes have attempted to address these drivers.

Total County cases are about 22,000 with about 20,000 recovered, leaving about 2,000 active cases. He

highlighted case count hotspots throughout the county. He then addressed questions that had been received prior to the meeting.

- *Regarding doubles tennis, the State has been clear that tennis is limited to singles not doubles.*
- *Regarding worship services when weather is not conducive to outdoor services, he suggested favoring those times that the weather is milder and consider alternatives such as video streaming or drive-in services.*
- *Regarding similarity between COVID and seasonal flu, he agreed that both have similar initial presenting symptoms so we rely on diagnostic tests which can distinguish between the two. The flu and coronavirus can happen together.*
- *Regarding restaurants and gyms as virus drivers, we know that the virus is more easily transmitted indoors and in settings where people are singing, talking loudly, or breathing hard. Contact tracing data and studies also suggest that restaurants are among the top four COVID drivers. Next on the list of drivers are fitness centers, cafés and snack bars, hotels/motels and then grocery stores and doctor's offices.*
- *Regarding kids' sports, the State guidance restricts contact sports and indoor group activities in the purple tier.*
- *Regarding school openings, if a school had already started some degree of in-person instruction, they do not have to close again. Schools that had not begun in-person instruction will have to wait.*

Chair Andersen invited public comment and gave instructions:

- *Mike McDermott asked if we moved back to the Red Tier, how long would it take before churches are once again to meet indoors? Since regular church services were not among the top drivers, what data supports the requirement to hold services outdoors? Dr. Warne responded that the County would have to meet the red tier criteria for at least two weeks before returning to the red tier. He cannot speak for the State, but he does not anticipate an accelerated change to a less restrictive tier. He wasn't aware of local data showing transmission during church services, but there is data from other areas.*
- *Jared Thomsen observed that the place of worship guidance has not been updated by CalOSHA since July 29. He asked if there is current County advice on church services. He asked if there would be advice about caring for facial masks to keep them sanitary. Dr. Warne responded that the State typically updates guidance when significant changes can be made. He suggested following the State's Blueprint tier guidance which, for places of worship,*
- *Tammie said that doubles tennis is being played everywhere and she wants to resume doubles tennis at Heather Farms. She contrasted doubles Ping-Pong, which is permitted, with doubles tennis which is prohibited. She said some older people cannot play singles tennis. Dr. Warne understood that some courts were not following the State guidance. An option is to report such violations. DA Hotline: 925-957-8608.*
- *925-348-0412 said that gyms and restaurants haven't been open long enough to be considered super-spreaders. The caller asked if the health officer thought the new COVID vaccine should be compulsory. The caller complained that Vice Chair Mitchoff made a comment to the effect "more stick than carrot" regarding the DA's task force to educate merchants about complying with COVID guidance. Dr.*

Warne responded that a couple of months of statewide data supports that restaurants and gyms are key drivers. An outbreak is three or more infections arising from a common setting. He said the guidance is evidence-based. To wit, some activities that were previously closed are now open. He does not anticipate that the COVID-19 will be compulsory.

- Chair Andersen asked callers to limit their comments to questions of the health officer.*
- Vice Chair Mitchoff responded that her comment was taken out of context and was in reference to creating a level playing field in which all business operated under the same restrictions, and not creating operating advantages for business that chose not to comply to the detriment of business that follow the rules. The caller may disagree with that position, but she wanted to provide the correct context for the comment. She understood the struggle of small businesses but if businesses do not comply and our case rates worsen, we'll be in danger of even stricter lockdown.*
- Tina Sherwin said that one of her school's programs has reopened and asked if the rest of the school's programs may reopen. Dr. Warne responded that her school could continue its reopening since it was already in the process of reopening.*
- Steve M asked for the rationale of permitting schools that reopened in the red tier to continue to operate and open in the purple tier. She asked if CCHS must approve before schools reopen. Dr. Warne cannot speak to the state guidance but suspects that stopping a school reopening that was already in progress would be too disruptive. CCHS is a strong partner to the schools and has collaborated around the reopening guidance over a long period of time. CCHS doesn't necessary review and approve each district's plan. It does review PreK or TK-6th grade waiver requests.*

Chair Andersen invited Lynn Mackey to comment. Lynn said that there is a lot of advocacy occurring at the State level because some of the guidance seems contradictory. Everyone wants to follow the rules. Now that we are back in the purple tier, the waiver process will resume. Schools that will continue reopening will be required to increase testing protocols.

During public comment, staff shared the Governor's news release ordering a curfew beginning on Saturday, November 21 at 10:00 p.m. PST.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/limited-stay-at-home-order.aspx>

4. RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the October 15, 2020 meeting.

The Committee approved the Record of Action for the October 15, 2020 meeting as presented.

AYE: Chair Candace Andersen, Vice Chair Karen Mitchoff
Passed

5. The next meeting is currently scheduled for December 17, 2020.

Chair Andersen confirmed the next meeting date as listed.

6. Adjourn

Chair Andersen made closing remarks and adjourned the meeting at 2:47 p.m.

For Additional Information Contact:

Julie DiMaggio Enea, Committee Staff
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Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT AND RECOVERY

3.

Meeting Date: 11/19/2020
Subject: COVID 19 UPDATES
Submitted For: Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor
Department: Board of Supervisors District II
Referral No.:
Referral Name:
Presenter: Dr. Thomas Warne, Deputy County Health Officer

Contact:

Referral History:

Although the Board of Supervisors has authority over County issues, under State law, when an emergency of this nature is declared and there is a pandemic of this magnitude, the Health Officer of each county has the legal authority to impose whatever orders she or he deem necessary to protect the public.

On Tuesday, April 21, the Board of Supervisors formed this ad hoc committee to advise the Health Department on COVID19 impacts. The goal of the committee is to work toward having a sustainable COVID-19 mitigation and recovery plan. The committee will be working with the community and industry on issues of concern, advising the Board of Supervisors and the Health Officer on possible ways to interpret and apply Health Orders so they will continue to keep the community safe, but allow more businesses to re-open and provide common-sense applications to outdoor activities.

The Committee has so far conducted 17 public meetings on May 7, 14, 21 and 28; June 4, 11, 18, and 25; July 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30; August 13; and September 3 and 17; and October 15, 2020, covering recreation and lifestyle services, in-home and other personal services, small businesses, religious gatherings; a plan to move to fully to Stage 2 and, regrettably, the second surge that required postponement of many planned Phase 2 re-openings. The State has since moved to a four-tier reopening plan. A record of prior meetings is posted on the County website at this [link](#). The committee has moved to a monthly meeting schedule unless changing circumstances dictate otherwise, taking up new developments in the pandemic and discussing a roadmap to recovery.

The Committee and the Health Officer also discuss updates to the State and County Health Orders and projected timeline for reopening businesses, schools, and community activities and answer questions received via the Supervisors' offices and Committee staff. Community leaders and health officials continue to urge county residents to follow the local and state health guidance to protect their families and communities – it saves lives.

In Contra Costa and across the nation, historically marginalized communities are experiencing the most pronounced impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Local community leaders continue to call upon the public to take COVID-19 seriously, and take steps to keep healthy and safe:

- Stay home from work or school if you feel sick
- Wash your hands often
- Wear face masks whenever you are near someone outside your immediate household
- Observe physical distancing outside the home and do not make unnecessary trips or visits
- Get tested and follow the health instructions if you test positive or were exposed to someone who tested positive

All Bay Area residents are also encouraged to get tested for COVID-19, and to do so immediately if they have symptoms. Check with your local health department for more information about testing and about efforts in your community to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information, please visit cchealth.org/coronavirus to read the latest health order and its appendices, and for local information about Contra Costa's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Here is a link to the updated FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions): [FAQs](#)

Referral Update:

Deputy County Health Officer Dr. Thomas Warne will provide a COVID-19 update at today's meeting.

Following Dr. Warne's remarks, we will allow for Public Comment and additional questions specific to the current Health Order, attached, other guidance documents, also attached, and Timeline.

Under the State's new Blueprint for a Safer Economy, every county is assigned to a tier by the State based on its test positivity and adjusted case rate (see Tier chart at the end of this section). The State reviews data weekly and tiers are updated on Tuesdays. To move forward, a county must meet the next tier's criteria for two consecutive weeks. On September 29, Contra Costa County progressed from the Purple (most restrictive) Tier to the Red Tier, and on October 27, progressed again to the Orange Tier. For Contra Costa County to have moved down to the least restrictive (yellow/gold) tier, daily new cases (per 100k) must decrease to less than one and positive tests must decrease to less than 2%. If a county's case rate and positivity rate fall into different tiers, the county remains in the stricter tier. [Click to learn more about tier assignments and metric details](#). In response to evidence that COVID-19 is spreading rapidly in Contra Costa, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), on November 10, moved the county back into the red tier of its [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#), restoring more safety requirements to slow the virus and save lives.

County risk level	New cases	Positive tests
WIDESPREAD Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed	More than 7 daily new cases (per 100k)	More than 8% Positive tests
SUBSTANTIAL Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed	4 - 7 daily new cases (per 100k)	5 - 8% Positive tests
MODERATE Some indoor business operations are open with modifications	1 - 3.9 daily new cases (per 100k)	2 - 4.9% Positive tests
MINIMAL Most indoor business operations are open with modifications	Less than 1 daily new cases (per 100k)	Less than 2% Positive tests

On Thursday, California reached the unfortunate milestone of 1 million COVID cases statewide. With transmission and hospitalizations on the rise, health officers representing counties across the Bay Area are tightening local rules for high-risk indoor activities where the virus can spread more easily. Contra Costa Health Services issued an order to close, effective Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 8 a.m.:

- Indoor dining
- Indoor fitness centers
- Concession stands at movie theaters

Dine-in restaurant and gyms reopened at reduced capacities when the county entered the state's red tier in late September. But recent increases in COVID cases and hospitalizations make the closures necessary to help contain spread of the virus. Indoor interactions at restaurants, movie theaters, and indoor gyms and fitness centers are high-risk activities. Diners at restaurants remove their masks to eat or drink, as do movie patrons when snacking on food from concession stands. People also breathe heavily while they exercise at indoor gyms, increasing the risk of droplet and aerosol transmission of COVID-19, which can be only partially reduced by wearing a face covering. Health officials are especially worried about people gathering indoors [with the holidays coming up](#) and may consider other closures in the days and weeks ahead. Contra Costa County, which is now in the red tier, could move into the state's most restrictive tier, the purple tier, within the coming weeks. If the county moves into the purple tier, schools that haven't reopened will have to remain closed until the county moves back into the red tier or until they receive a waiver from the state. [Holiday Advice: Celebrate without gathering](#) The safest way to celebrate this holiday season is virtually or with members of your household. Gathering with people outside your household – even extended family – increases the risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. There are many ways to enjoy the holidays with loved ones without gathering:

- Enjoy holiday traditions at home with your household
- Decorate your home and/or yard
- Share a virtual meal with family and friends
- Host online parties and/or contests
- Prepare meals using traditional recipes and deliver to family and neighbors
- Attend holiday movie nights at drive-in venues
- Visit holiday-themed outdoor art installations
- Participate in drive-by events where everyone stays in their vehicles

The average daily number of new, confirmed COVID-19 cases is on the rise in Contra Costa, and across the Bay Area and the U.S. Health officials urge county residents to consider how they are protecting themselves and their families from the virus, and what they can do to make the holiday season safer. The County Health Officer advises that the most critical way to protect against COVID-19 is to wear a face covering whenever you are near people who do not live with you, and whenever you go in a building that is not your home. Face coverings help prevent people who do not know they are infected from spreading the virus to others. Most new COVID-19 cases in Contra Costa are spread within the home, with an infected member of a household passing the virus to people with whom they live. Face coverings in public reduce the risk of bringing COVID-19 into the home, where people usually do not mask or practice physical distancing. Data from Contra Costa show that the average daily number of newly identified COVID-19 infections has risen steadily since the county entered the orange tier of the state's plan on October 27. On Tuesday, the 7-day average, per-capita number of new cases (the "adjusted case rate") was 5.3 in Contra Costa, higher than permitted for counties in the orange tier for a second consecutive week. That triggered the county's shift back into the more restrictive red tier, effective November 10. Other data show an alarming rise in local cases. On November 11, 50 people with COVID were hospitalized in Contra Costa – the highest one-day total since September. In response to the data, Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) issued a local health order

last week that restored red-tier safety restrictions for a number of businesses and activities, though the county remained in the orange tier at the time. Those changes remain in place today, including requirements for reduced occupancy during indoor worship services and for indoor dining and movie theaters, and the closure of bars that do not serve meals with alcohol. Cardrooms are required to operate outdoors only. The state's action today adds these additional requirements, effective starting Friday, Nov. 13 in Contra Costa:

- Retail stores that operate indoors must scale back their maximum occupancy to 50% or 100 people, whichever is lower.
- Indoor shopping malls must reduce their occupancy and reduce the occupancy of food courts to 25% or 100 people, whichever is fewer.
- Office workspaces must operate remotely.
- Higher education institutions must keep indoor lectures and student gatherings to 25% occupancy or 100 people, whichever is fewer.
- Gyms and fitness centers must scale back their indoor occupancies to 10%.
- Communal indoor pools must close.
- Indoor family entertainment centers, such as bowling alleys, must close their indoor operations. Amusement parks cannot operate.
- Most live outdoor theatrical, musical or artistic performances are prohibited.

The tier change does not affect the ability of schools to reopen for in-person instruction, following state and local health guidelines. Outdoor playgrounds may also remain open.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE status report on the September 14th Updated Health Order on Social Distancing, the State's new Blueprint for a Safer Economy and the related new equity provision, and on school re-openings.

Attachments

Health Order Update Addl Restrictions for High Risk Businesses 11-13-2020

Openings at a Glance 11-13-2020

West Contra Costa Organizes Mass COVID-19 Testing Event to Slow Community Spread Press Releases Contra Costa Health Services 11-5-2020

Contra Costa Responds Quickly to Climbing COVID-19 Cases Press Releases Contra Costa Health Services 11-4-2020

Holiday & Travel Recommendations 11-5-2020

Sporting Events 11-4-2020

State Tiers

Guidance for Suspected/Confirmed Covid-19 Cases 9-28-2020

Contra-Costa-County-Openings-at-a-Glance 11-16-2020

Board Approves Special CDBG Funds for Rental Assistance Legal Services News Release 11.17.2020

State Response to COVID-19 Spike Returns Contra Costa to Purple Tier Press Releases Contra Costa Health Services 11-16-2020

Public Comment Tammie Snyder 11-6-2020

Minutes Attachments

No file(s) attached.



**ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA
IMPOSING ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON SPECIFIED HIGH-RISK BUSINESS
SECTORS TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN RESPONSE TO RISING CASE
RATES**

ORDER NO. HO-COVID19-36

DATE OF ORDER: NOVEMBER 13, 2020

Summary of the Order

To slow the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”), this Order of the Contra Costa County Health Officer imposes the following restrictions as of the date and time set forth in Section 2 of this Order. These restrictions are in addition to other restrictions set forth by the State of California:

- Dine-in restaurants: Indoor dining is prohibited.
- Indoor movie theaters: Concession operations are prohibited. Patrons shall comply with the face covering requirements of Health Officer Order No. HO-COVID19-22 at all times within all areas of an indoor movie theater establishment.
- Gyms and fitness centers: Indoor activities are prohibited.

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040 and 120175, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA (“HEALTH OFFICER”) ORDERS:

1. **Basis of Order.** On November 10, 2020, the State of California moved Contra Costa County (“County”) back into the red (substantial) tier of the State of California’s Blueprint for a Safer Economy (“State Blueprint”), as the result of an increase in the seven-day average COVID-19 adjusted daily case rate per 100,000 persons, from 4.3 on October 16, 2020, to 5.3 on October 31, 2020. In the red tier, indoor restaurants, indoor movie theaters, and indoor gyms and fitness centers may operate under restrictions applicable to the tier, and guidelines issued by the State of California. However, since October 31, 2020, the COVID-



19 adjusted daily case rate per 100,000 people in the County (seven-day average) has continued to rise. On November 3, 2020, the adjusted rate had risen to 6.2 cases per 100,000 people. Obtaining control over this rise in community transmissions requires the further restriction of high-risk activities. Imposing additional restrictions on these activities now, before the County falls back into the most restrictive tier of the State Blueprint, may reasonably be expected to reduce the number of new COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths that would otherwise arise if these new restrictions are not established.

Within the substantial tier, indoor interactions at restaurants, movie theaters, and indoor gyms and fitness centers are considered high risk activities. Attendance at indoor movie theaters involves sitting in an enclosed space for one to three hours a time, with individuals removing their face coverings to eat and drink. Likewise, at indoor restaurants, diners remove their face coverings to eat and drink. At indoor gyms and fitness centers, individuals are exercising and breathing heavily, which has been shown to increase the risk of droplet and aerosol transmission of COVID-19, which can be only partially mitigated by the wearing of face coverings.

For the above reasons, the Health Officer has determined that it is necessary to impose stricter restrictions on the above business sectors in order to slow to spread of COVID-19. The restrictions set forth below are consistent with the restrictions applicable to these business sectors in the purple (widespread) tier of the State Blueprint.

2. **Additional Restrictions on Specified High-Risk Business Sectors.** The following restrictions take effect at 8:00 a.m. on November 17, 2020:
 - a. **Dine-in restaurants:** Indoor dining operations are prohibited.
 - b. **Indoor movie theaters:** Concession operations are prohibited. Patrons shall comply with the face covering requirements of Health Officer Order No. HO-COVID19-22 at all times within all areas of an indoor movie theater establishment.
 - c. **Gyms and fitness centers:** Indoor fitness activities are prohibited.

To the extent that this Order conflicts with the Health Officer's September 14, 2020, Order (HO-COVID19-28), which authorizes business to operate in the County in accordance with State guidelines and restrictions applicable to the tier of the State Blueprint that the County is in, or the Health Officer's November 4, 2020, Order (HO-COVID19-35), which imposed restrictions on indoor operations of restaurants and movie theaters in addition to other high-risk business sectors, this Order will control.

3. **Enforcement.** Pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and all chiefs of police in the County ensure compliance with and enforce this Order. The violation of any provision of this Order constitutes an imminent threat and menace to



public health, constitutes a public nuisance, and is punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

4. **Effective Date and Time:** This order takes effect at 8:00 a.m. on November 17, 2020, and will continue to be in effect until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Health Officer.
5. **Copies; Contact Information.** Copies of this Order shall promptly be: (1) made available at the Office of the Director of Contra Costa Health Services, 1220 Morello Avenue, Suite 200, Martinez, CA 94553; (2) posted on the Contra Costa Health Services website (<https://www.cchealth.org>); and (3) provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order. Questions or comments regarding this Order may be directed to Contra Costa Health Services at (844) 729-8410.

IT IS SO ORDERED:



Chris Farnitano, M.D.
Health Officer of the County of Contra Costa

November 13, 2020



Contra Costa County Openings at a Glance

In all cases, social distancing & face coverings are required.
For sector specific guidelines, visit covid19.ca.gov.

Open ✓ Closed ✗

Athletic Fields	✓
Automobile & Bicycle Repair	✓
Bars, Brewpubs, Breweries, Pubs & Craft Distilleries (alcohol may only be served with dine-in meals, outdoors only)	✓
Campgrounds, RV Parks & Outdoor Recreation Facilities	✓
Car Washes	✓
Cardrooms, Satellite Wagering Sites & Racetracks (outdoors only)	✓
Childcare Facilities & Activities	✓
Construction	✓
Dental Care	✓
Outdoor Dining, Take Out & Delivery	✓
Drive-in Theaters	✓
Family Entertainment Centers (outdoors only with modifications for activities like kart racing, mini golf & batting cages)	✓
Financial Institutions	✓
Funeral Homes, Mortuaries & Cemeteries	✓
Gas Stations	✓
Golf Courses	✓
Government Services	✓
Grocery & Other Food Stores	✓
Gyms & Fitness Centers (outdoors only)	✓
Hair Salons & Barbershops	✓
Healthcare, Pharmacies & Medical Supply	✓
Higher Education (max 25% or 100 people, whichever is fewer, capacity indoors)	✓
Hotels & Short-Term Rentals	✓
Laundromats	✓
Libraries (curbside pickup)	✓
Live-Audience Sports	✗
Live Performances (outdoors only, 25 people / 3 households)	✓
Live performances at venues where food & drinks are served	✗
Logging & Mining	✓
Logistics & Warehousing Facilities	✓
Manufacturing	✓
Movie Theaters (max 25% or 100 people, whichever is fewer, capacity indoors without concession operations)	✓

Museums & Exhibit Spaces (max 25% capacity indoors)	✓
Music, Television & Film Production	✓
Nail Salons	✓
Office Workspaces (telework only)	✓
Outdoor Businesses	✓
Parks (including picnic & BBQ areas & playgrounds)	✓
Personal Care Services (massage, facials, waxing, electrolysis, tattooing, permanent makeup & piercing etc.)	✓
Places of Worship & Cultural Ceremonies (max 25% or 100 people, whichever is fewer, capacity indoors)	✓
Indoor Playgrounds (including bounce centers, ball pits & laser tag)	✗
Outdoor Playgrounds	✓
Public & Private Transportation Services	✓
Public Events & Gatherings (nightclubs, convention centers, concerts, etc.)	✗
Real Estate	✓
Recreational Team Sports	✗
Residential & Commercial Maintenance Services	✓
Retailers (max 50% capacity indoors)	✓
K-12 Schools	✓
Saunas & Steam Rooms	✗
Shooting & Archery Ranges	✓
Shopping Malls (max 50% capacity indoors and food courts at 25% capacity)	✓
Skate Parks	✓
Small Group Gatherings (outdoors only, max 25 people / 3 households)	✓
Spas / hot tubs (outdoors only)	✓
Swimming Pools (outdoors only)	✓
Tennis & Pickleball Courts (singles only)	✓
Theme Parks & Amusement Parks	✗
Utilities	✓
Veterinary Care, Groomers & Dog Parks	✓
Wineries & Tasting Rooms (outdoors only)	✓



HOME • NEWSROOM • PRESS RELEASES • WEST CONTRA COSTA ORGANIZES MASS COVID-19 TESTING EVENT TO SLOW COMMUNITY SPREAD

Media Release

West Contra Costa Organizes Mass COVID-19 Testing Event to Slow Community Spread



Tweet

Thursday, November 5, 2020

Note to Editors: Event organizers will host a media availability to discuss this event and the importance of COVID-19 testing in West Contra Costa at 7 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, in front of West County Health Center. Access to areas where patients are receiving tests or flu vaccine will be restricted, but B-roll of event setup may be available prior to 8:30 a.m.

WHEN: Public event hours: 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 7

WHERE: West County Health Center, 13601 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo. Walk-up services provided in a rear parking lot, parking available in an outdoor parking structure and surrounding lots.

Communities hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic are mobilizing for a grassroots mass testing event this weekend to help slow the spread of the virus in hard-hit West County neighborhoods.

West County's Latinx community, particularly neighborhoods in San Pablo and Richmond, faces some of the highest rates of new COVID-19 infection and testing positivity rates in Contra Costa.

To combat that trend, a coalition of community

CONTACT

Karl Fischer,
Contra Costa Health
Services,
925-383-8845

RELATED

- [Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Latest Local Information](#)

organizations led by Contra Costa County United Latino Voices, Contra Costa Supervisor John Gioia and Contra Costa Health Services are kicking off a sustained community testing push on Nov. 7 at West County Health Center, 13601 San Pablo Ave. in San Pablo.

"A simple COVID test is one of the best ways to protect ourselves and our community," Gioia said. "We can move quickly to stop the virus if we know where it's spreading. We can take care of people who are already infected. When we know, we can save more lives."

The event is not a gathering or street fair. Attendees will wear face coverings and move briskly through a physically distanced line to outdoor stations where nurses and volunteers will provide no-cost COVID-19 tests and flu vaccination. Cloth masks and free groceries will also be provided for people who need them.

No appointment, insurance or payment is required. Parking is available in an outdoor garage next to the testing site.

"We know that residents of San Pablo and Richmond, especially Latinx people, suffer more from COVID-19," said Genoveva Calloway of Contra Costa County United Latino Voices. "Our goal is to empower and protect our community by bringing safe, free health resources directly to our neighbors."

San Pablo has the highest number of per-capita COVID-19 cases (adjusted for population size) in Contra Costa County, about triple the county average. Per capita, Richmond has about double the county average, and also the highest number of community deaths from COVID-19.

Convenient, no-cost testing is available to anyone who lives or works in West County not only on Nov. 7, but every weekday through Contra Costa County's community testing program. Call 1-844-421-0804 for an appointment, or schedule online at cchealth.org/coronavirus ([/coronavirus/](https://cchealth.org/coronavirus/)).

#



HOME • NEWSROOM • PRESS RELEASES • CONTRA COSTA RESPONDS QUICKLY TO CLIMBING COVID-19 CASES

Press Release

Contra Costa Responds Quickly to Climbing COVID-19 Cases

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Wednesday, November 4, 2020

With data from the past week showing a marked increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in Contra Costa County, health officials are taking steps to protect the community with modest changes to local health orders.

Contra Costa entered the orange tier of California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy on Oct. 27, triggering an expansion of community reopening activities in the county. But since that date, the average daily number of new cases in the county has grown substantially higher.

If the trend continues, the county is at risk of moving backward into the more-restrictive red tier of the state's reopening plan as soon as next week. In the meantime, Contra Costa has amended its health orders to rein in some of the riskier indoor activities permitted under the orange tier in hopes of preventing outbreaks and keeping the county out of the red.

Contra Costa County's health officer issued new orders today limiting the number of spectators allowed at professional and collegiate sporting events, while also reimposing restrictions on other high-risk activities.

The health order on sporting events limits the number of spectators at pro or college games to 25 people from no more than three different

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households. This is consistent with the County's guidance on private social gatherings, said Dr. Chris Farnitano, the County's health officer.

The health officer also issued another order restoring stricter limitations on high-risk activities, such as prolonged indoor gatherings and gatherings involving eating and drinking where masks must be removed. Wearing face coverings when around others from outside your household is one of the most effective ways people can stop the spread of COVID, Dr. Farnitano said.

Under the new order, select high-risk activities must be modified:

- Outdoor bars prohibited (except where allowed under restaurant guidance with drinks as part of a meal)
- Indoor dining allowed at a maximum of 25% occupancy or 100 people, whichever is fewer (down from 50% occupancy and 200 people)
- Indoor movie theaters can operate at a maximum 25% of occupancy or 100 people, whichever is fewer (down from 50% occupancy or 200 people)
- Religious services indoors allowed at a maximum 25% occupancy or 100 people, whichever is fewer (down from 50% occupancy or 200 people)
- Cardrooms and satellite wagering sites can't operate indoors (they previously could operate indoors at 25% capacity)

"We believe these measures are necessary to reduce the spread of COVID in our community," Dr. Farnitano said.

The state allows counties to impose stricter standards so local health departments can respond to circumstances in their communities. The order in Contra Costa will go into effect Friday, Nov. 6. Over the past months, the Bay Area counties have made the decisions they've felt best around opening or not opening businesses and activities. San Francisco pulled back on their timeline for opening last week. Alameda and Santa Clara have all taken a slower

pace than the state tier system allows. All three of these counties are essentially operating at red tier level restrictions even though they are in orange or yellow tiers.

Contra Costa County is still in the orange tier, but case rates are increasing again into the more restrictive red-tier level. The most recent data show an adjusted rate of 4.9 daily cases per 100,000 people in Contra Costa – above the orange-tier benchmark of fewer than 4 per 100,000 people.

If those numbers hold for another week or increase, Contra Costa will move back into the more restrictive red tier.

In addition, there were 40 people hospitalized on Nov. 2 due to COVID in local hospitals, compared to a low point of 17 in mid-October.

For now, other activities not cited in the new order will still be allowed under orange-tier criteria, including indoor swimming pools and indoor family entertainment centers can continue "naturally distanced" activities, such as bowling alleys, escape rooms and climbing-wall gyms, at 25% occupancy.

For more information, visit [cchealth.org/coronavirus \(/coronavirus/\)](https://cchealth.org/coronavirus (/coronavirus/)).

#



GATHERINGS

Recommendations for Staying Safe from Covid-19 During the Holidays

During holiday season, you may be wondering if it is safe to gather and celebrate with loved ones. Here are guidelines for protecting yourself and others from COVID-19.

The safest gathering is one that is a small, stable group that meets outdoors for a short duration and uses face coverings, distance and other safety measures.

Any activity outside of your household increases chances of exposure to the virus. Be selective and space out which public activities you choose. If gathering with your small, stable group is most important, consider forgoing or delaying other activities such as a haircut or indoor dining to reduce your overall exposures and protect your group.

If you gather in person, keep it safe, small, short, and stable

OUTSIDE IS SAFER *Gather outside and follow safety guidelines*

The risk of COVID-19 transmission is highest in indoor spaces without enough ventilation. That's why gathering inside is not allowed, except as permitted under the state's health order. Outdoor spaces that are covered are okay, as long as 75% of the space is open to the outdoors. People may go inside to use restrooms, as long as restrooms are sanitized often and attendees only go one at a time.

SMALL: *Limit gatherings to no more than 3 households*

When people from different households are together at the same time in the same space, the risk of spreading COVID-19 goes up. That's why gatherings of more than 3 different households are not allowed.

SHORT: *Limit gatherings to no more than 2 hours*

The longer people gather together, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spreading. That's why gathering for longer than 2 hours is not allowed, under the state's health order.

STABLE: *Do not participate in multiple gatherings with many different households*

If anyone in your household develops COVID-19 symptoms after attending a gathering:

- Get tested for COVID-19
- Notify the other attendees as soon as possible regarding the potential exposure
- Stay home as much as possible for 14 days after the gathering or until household member tests negative
- Avoid being around people who have higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19

Considerations before hosting or attending:

- Are there many or increasing cases of COVID-19 in areas where attendees live?
- Have all attendees been taking precautions against COVID-19?
- Will all attendees wear face coverings and keep physical distance at the gathering?

Do not attend if:

- Anyone in your household has COVID-19-like symptoms
- You are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 due to age or medical conditions

Hosts should let guests know safety guidelines must be followed before the event so everyone is aware.

The more people come into contact with others outside their household, the higher the risk of spreading COVID-19. That's why participating in multiple gatherings with different households is strongly discouraged. If you attend several gatherings over the holidays, keep it to the same group of people.

Safety recommendations

- *Maintain at least 6 feet of physical distance* from people not in your household at all times, whether you're sitting or standing. More distance is safer.
- *Wear face coverings at all times, including when talking to others.* You can remove face covering briefly to eat, drink, or take medication as long as you stay at least 6 feet away from everyone outside your own household. More distance is safer.
- *Remain outside as much as possible.* If you go inside, open windows and doors to increase ventilation.
- *Wash hands with soap and water often.* If not available, use hand sanitizer.
- *Serve shared food safely.* If it is not possible to use single-serve disposable containers, food and beverages must be served by a person who washes or sanitizes their hands frequently and wears a face covering. If you are dropping off home-prepared food or drink gifts, be sure to wear a mask and disinfect or wash your hands thoroughly.
- *Avoid singing, chanting, and shouting.* If you cannot avoid these activities, keep your face covering on, your volume low, and at least a 6-foot distance from others. More distance and being outdoors are safer.



TRAVEL

Recommendations for Staying Safe from COVID-19 During the Holidays

Avoid travel during the holidays

COVID-19 is spreading rapidly in many parts of the country. Nonessential travel, including holiday travel, is not recommended. Traveling outside the Bay Area will increase your chance of getting infected and spreading the virus to others after your return. Additional precautions should also be taken when hosting and interacting with people traveling to the Bay Area, especially from other areas with widespread COVID-19.

If you travel outside the Bay Area, it is strongly recommended that you self-quarantine for 14 days after your return if your activities while travelling put you at higher risk of getting COVID-19. These higher risk activities include:

- Spending time within 6 feet of people you do not normally live with, while you or anyone around you was not wearing a face mask – especially if you were indoors.
- Traveling on planes, buses, trains, public transportation, or other shared vehicles, if face masks were not worn at all times by both you and the other people in the vehicle.

Do NOT travel if you are sick. You could spread COVID-19 or another infection

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, get tested and wait for a negative test result before you start your trip. Even if you test negative for COVID-19, you should not travel if you're feeling ill as you may spread another infection.

If you must travel, take steps to reduce risk

- Wear a face covering
- Keep at least 6 feet of physical distance from others (more distance is safer)
- Ventilate your space, if possible (for example, open the bus or taxi window)
- Wash or sanitize your hands often
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Avoid contact with anyone who is sick
- Avoid contact with frequently touched surfaces
- Get tested before and after you travel
- Get a flu shot

Air travel

Most viruses do not spread easily on flights because of how air circulates and is filtered on airplanes. However, it is likely that you will be sitting within 6 feet of others for long periods of time, which can increase your risk of getting COVID-19. Air travel also requires spending time in security lines and airport terminals, which can bring you in close contact with other people and frequently touched surfaces. Finally, during the holidays, planes and airports may be significantly more crowded than usual, which also increases risk of transmission.

Car travel

Don't share vehicles with people you don't live with. Vehicles are small enclosed spaces where COVID-19 can spread easily between people. If you must share a vehicle, try to ride with the same people each time, make sure everyone wears a face covering and open the windows to maximize outdoor air circulation as much as you can.

If you must travel, plan ahead

Is COVID-19 spreading where you are traveling?

The more cases at your destination, the more likely you are to get infected during travel and spread the virus to others when you return. For cases in the last 7 days by state, see https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases_casesper100klast7days

Are you, your travel companions, or those you are visiting at higher risk for serious illness?

Older adults and people with underlying medical conditions are more likely to get really sick if they get COVID-19. The virus can be spread among people who are not feeling any symptoms.

Will you be able to social distance from others during your trip?

It is hard to maintain 6 feet of space from others when using public transportation like airplanes, buses, trains, and taxis. Even when traveling in your own vehicle, you may find yourself in close contact with other people and frequently touched surfaces while making stops along the way.

Can you watch for symptoms and get tested?

In the event that you must travel, it's important to monitor yourself for symptoms for 14 days after your return and get tested immediately if you have any symptoms. Even if you don't develop symptoms, consider getting tested around 3-7 days after your return, particularly if returning from an area with more COVID-19 transmission than we have in the Bay Area, or if you engaged in activities that put you at risk for getting COVID-19. If you do any activity where you might have been exposed to COVID-19, including travel, reduce your contact with other people as much as possible for 14 days, keep your distance from others, and make extra sure that you always wear a face covering anytime you're outside your household.



ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA
AMENDMENTS TO THE SOCIAL DISTANCING ORDER TO LIMIT THE
ATTENDANCE OF SPECTATORS AT COLLEGIATE AND PROFESSIONAL
SPORTING EVENTS IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

ORDER NO. HO-COVID19-34

DATE OF ORDER: NOVEMBER 4, 2020

Summary of the Order

Based on our current understanding of transmission of the virus that causes Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”), local case investigations, and knowledge gained from case investigations and outbreaks across the region and the state, there is a heightened concern about settings where people from multiple households gather. These settings include stadiums, sports training facilities and similar venues that are used to hold sporting events.

On October 27, 2020, Contra Costa County (“County”) moved into the orange (moderate) tier of the State of California’s Blueprint for a Safer Economy. Guidance issued by the State provides that within the orange tier, professional sporting events at stadiums and racetracks are permitted. Organizers of these events are allowed to admit spectators, but capacity must be limited to 20 percent, and only reserved seating may be made available. Notwithstanding these guidelines, the County Health Officer has determined that, in order to slow the spread of COVID-19, stricter requirements must be imposed. Even with capacity restrictions, social distancing measures and face covering requirements, the convergence of large numbers of spectators at sporting events, whether professional or collegiate, like other types of mass gatherings, creates the potential for a superspreading event.

The Order of the Contra Costa County Health Officer issued on September 14, 2020 (HO-COVID19-28), as amended by the Order issued on October 27, 2020 (HO-COVID19-33) (collectively the “Prior Order”), limits private social gatherings to no more than 25 persons, including a maximum of three households. Consistent with this limitation, for the above reasons, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, this Order modifies the Prior Order to require professional sporting organizations and institutions of higher learning to limit the attendance of spectators at sporting events held in this County to no more than 25 persons, including a maximum of three households.



UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040 and 120175, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA (“HEALTH OFFICER”) ORDERS:

1. **Amendment.** Section 9 of the Prior Order is hereby amended to read as follows:

9. Restrictions on Business Activities.

- a. **Definition.** A “business” includes any for-profit, non-profit, or educational entity, whether a corporate entity, organization, partnership or sole proprietorship, and regardless of the nature of the service, the function it performs, or its corporate or entity structure.
- b. **Conformance with State Requirements.**
- (1) A business activity is allowed in this County if:
- (a) The business activity is in a sector that is open in the tier of the State Blueprint that applies to the County;
- (b) The business activity conforms to applicable guidance issued by the State; and
- (c) The business activity conforms to applicable local restrictions set forth in this Order or any other Order of the County Health Officer, if any.

The County’s tier status is determined at <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>. Information about the four tiers included in the State Blueprint is at

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Dimmer-Framework-August_2020.pdf. State guidance documents are at <https://covid19.ca.gov/industry-guidance/>.

- (2) A business activity is not allowed in this County if the business activity is in a sector that is closed in the tier of the State Blueprint that applies to the County. A business engaged in an activity that is not allowed in the County under the State Blueprint must discontinue the activity in the County until it is allowed.
- c. **Local Restrictions.**

- (1) Professional and collegiate sporting events. Professional sporting organizations and institutions of higher education must limit the attendance of spectators at practices, competitions, or other athletics events held in the County, to no more than 25 persons, including a maximum of three households. For purposes of this Order, a spectator



is defined as a person who attends an event solely to watch the event and is not working at or other participating in the event.

2. **Effective Date and Time:** This order takes effect at 8:00 a.m. on November 6, 2020.

IT IS SO ORDERED:



November 4, 2020

Chris Farnitano, M.D.
Health Officer of the County of Contra Costa



County risk level

New cases

Positive tests

WIDESPREAD

Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed

More than 7

daily new cases (per 100k)

More than 8%

Positive tests

SUBSTANTIAL

Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed

4 - 7

daily new cases (per 100k)

5 - 8%

Positive tests

MODERATE

Some indoor business operations are open with modifications

1 - 3.9

daily new cases (per 100k)

2 - 4.9%

Positive tests

MINIMAL

Most indoor business operations are open with modifications

Less than 1

daily new cases (per 100k)

Less than 2%

Positive tests



BUSINESS Guidance for Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 Cases

Scenario	Immediate Action	Follow Up
COVID-19 Symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing) (No known contact to COVID-19 positive case)	<p>Send home and recommend contact with primary care provider for recommendations regarding need for testing.</p> <p>Testing is readily available through CCHS.</p> <p>For Symptom Screening consult CDPH Employer Playbook for Safe Reopening</p>	<p>Remain open.</p> <p>Notification of workplace cohort in this scenario is at the discretion of each institution and not required by CDPH or CCHS.</p> <p>No notification of CCHS required.</p>
Positive COVID-19 Individuals with or without symptoms and have laboratory confirmed COVID 19	<p>Must isolate at home.</p> <p><u>With symptoms:</u> May return after 10 days have passed since start of symptoms, if symptoms are improving and no fever for 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication).</p> <p><u>Without symptoms:</u> May return after 10 days have passed since the date of positive COVID-19 test. If symptoms develop during isolation period, may return 10 days after test if symptoms are improving and no fever for 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication).</p> <p><u>No repeat testing required to return to work.</u></p> <p>Next Steps</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify close contacts.2. Quarantine & exclude exposed contacts for 14 days after the last date the case was present at business while infectious.3. Recommend testing of contacts, prioritize	<p>Notify CCHS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CCHS Business Intake Form2. Proceed with isolation and notification of close contacts.3. CCHS Locations Case Investigator will follow up with business contact to discuss next steps. <p>Employee notification requirements can be found in Section 4 of CA AB685.</p> <p>Cleaning instructions: If notified of a positive COVID-19 case within previous 24 hours - close facility, clean and sanitize concentrating on all high touch surfaces and areas where employee spent their time. Facility</p>



	symptomatic contacts (this will not shorten 14- day quarantine)	can reopen once sanitized.
Negative COVID-19 Test after Symptoms* *Testing is recommended no sooner than 5-7 days after exposure to an individual who is positive for COVID 19.	May return to work after 24 hours of symptom improvement and no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medication).	Remain open. Notification of workplace cohort in this scenario is at the discretion of each institution and not required by CDPH or CCHS. No notification of CCHS required.
Contact to COVID-19 No symptoms (whether Tested or Untested) Never had symptoms but was tested due to close contact with a COVID case.	Must continue quarantine at home for 14 days after the last known close contact with the positive case. Testing is highly recommended, but a negative test does not release one from quarantine Symptoms can develop even after testing negative, at any time within 14 days after exposure, so strict adherence to quarantine is required. Testing is recommended no sooner than 5-7 days after exposure to an individual with positive COVID19 test.	No notification of CCHS required.
Contact to COVID-19 Symptomatic	Must quarantine at home for 14 days after the last known close contact with the positive case. Testing is highly recommended and if completed and returns positive, refer to actions and follow up for "Positive COVID-19." If tests negative, must complete 14-day quarantine.	No notification of CCHS required.
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDPH Employer Playbook for Safe Reopening • CDPH Covid-19 Guidance Documents • CDC Cleaning and Sanitizing your Facility • CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces for COVID-19 • EPA List N: Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19 • Cleaning and Disinfecting After a Confirmed Covid-19 Case 	CCHS COVID Testing Info and Scheduling CCHS General Covid Information Hotline: (844) 729-8410 Email: covid.business.tracing@cchealth.org

Revised 09-28-2020



Contra Costa County Openings at a Glance

In all cases, social distancing & face coverings are required.
For sector specific guidelines, visit covid19.ca.gov.

Open ✓ Closed ✗

Athletic Fields	✓
Automobile & Bicycle Repair	✓
Bars, Brewpubs, Breweries, Pubs & Craft Distilleries (alcohol may only be served with dine-in meals, outdoors only)	✓
Campgrounds, RV Parks & Outdoor Recreation Facilities	✓
Car Washes	✓
Cardrooms, Satellite Wagering Sites & Racetracks (outdoors only)	✓
Childcare Facilities & Activities	✓
Construction	✓
Dental Care	✓
Outdoor Dining, Take Out & Delivery	✓
Drive-in Movie Theaters	✓
Family Entertainment Centers (outdoors only with modifications for activities like kart racing, mini golf & batting cages)	✓
Financial Institutions	✓
Funeral Homes, Mortuaries & Cemeteries	✓
Gas Stations	✓
Golf Courses	✓
Government Services	✓
Grocery & Other Food Stores (max 50% capacity indoors)	✓
Gyms & Fitness Centers (outdoors only)	✓
Hair Salons & Barbershops	✓
Healthcare, Pharmacies & Medical Supply	✓
Higher Education (distance learning only)	✓
Hotels & Short-Term Rentals	✓
Laundromats	✓
Libraries (curbside pickup)	✓
Live-Audience Sports	✗
Live Performances (outdoors only, 25 people / 3 households)	✓
Live performances at venues where food & drinks are served	✗
Logging & Mining	✓
Logistics & Warehousing Facilities	✓
Manufacturing	✓
Indoor Movie Theaters	✗
Museums & Exhibit Spaces (outdoors only)	✓

Music, Television & Film Production	✓
Nail Salons	✓
Office Workspaces (telework only)	✓
Outdoor Businesses	✓
Parks (including picnic & BBQ areas & playgrounds)	✓
Personal Care Services (massage, facials, waxing, electrolysis, tattooing, permanent makeup & piercing etc.)	✓
Places of Worship & Cultural Ceremonies (outdoors only)	✓
Indoor Playgrounds (including bounce centers, ball pits & laser tag)	✗
Outdoor Playgrounds	✓
Public & Private Transportation Services	✓
Public Events & Gatherings (nightclubs, convention centers, concerts, etc.)	✗
Real Estate	✓
Recreational Team Sports	✗
Residential & Commercial Maintenance Services	✓
Retailers (max 25% capacity indoors)	✓
K-12 Schools (distance learning only except for elementary schools with a waiver for in-person learning)	✓
Saunas & Steam Rooms	✗
Shooting & Archery Ranges	✓
Shopping Malls (max 25% capacity indoors and food courts and common areas closed)	✓
Skate Parks	✓
Small Group Gatherings (outdoors only, max 25 people / 3 households)	✓
Spas / hot tubs (outdoors only)	✓
Swimming Pools (outdoors only)	✓
Tennis & Pickleball Courts (singles only)	✓
Theme Parks & Amusement Parks	✗
Utilities	✓
Veterinary Care, Groomers & Dog Parks	✓
Wineries & Tasting Rooms (outdoors only)	✓



Contra Costa County

County Administrator's Office • 1025 Escobar Street • Martinez, CA 94553 • www.contracosta.ca.gov

NEWS RELEASE
November 17, 2020

Contact: Susan Shiu, PIO, 925-313-1183
Susan.Shiu@contracostatv.org

Board of Supervisors Approves \$4.29 Million of Community Development Block Grant Funding to Provide Emergency Rental Assistance and Tenant/Landlord Counseling and Legal Services

(Martinez, CA) – On November 17, 2020, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved an amendment to the County's Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Action Plan to allocate an additional \$4,292,960 in CDBG-Coronavirus or CV3 funds under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 to provide emergency rental assistance and tenant/landlord counseling and related legal services.

The Board action will provide CDBG-CV3 funds for the following: \$3.2 million for an emergency rental assistance program, \$600,000 for tenant/landlord counseling and related legal services, and \$492,960 to the County's Department of Conservation and Development for general program administration.

"The County must act quickly to assist residents, both tenants and landlords, who are or will be in crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic," said Board Chair, Supervisor Candace Andersen. "Providing direct rental payments to landlords on behalf of tenants is critical, and staff will work with community organizations to reach out to those in need, particularly low-income households and neighborhoods severely impacted by economic and housing instability at this difficult time."

All funds are provided to Contra Costa County through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's CARES Act funding to eligible CDBG grantees. As a grantee, Contra Costa County was awarded an additional \$4,292,960 in CDBG-Coronavirus funds. The Board awarded other CDBG funds for rental assistance and tenant/landlord counseling and related legal services earlier this year. The CV3 funds may be used to prevent, prepare for, and/or respond to the COVID-19 epidemic and its impacts.

HUD has targeted CDBG-CV3 funds towards jurisdictions with households facing higher risk of eviction and has indicated that these funds can be used to provide temporary financial assistance to meet rental obligations of low-income households that are struggling to meet their monthly rental obligations. The CDBG-CV3 funds may also be used to provide legal services in connection with tenant/landlord counseling services.

For more information, reference the 11/17/2020 Board of Supervisors Meeting [Agenda item D.4](#). More information will be available to the general public soon through the programs.

###



HOME • NEWSROOM • PRESS RELEASES • STATE RESPONSE TO COVID-19 SPIKE RETURNS CONTRA COSTA TO PURPLE TIER

Media Release

State Response to COVID-19 Spike Returns Contra Costa to Purple Tier

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Monday, November 16, 2020

With new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations surging across California, the state today restored safety measures in Contra Costa and many other counties that are needed to protect the public and save lives during the pandemic.

The return to the purple tier of California's [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/) (<https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>) comes with some additional requirements for businesses and community activities not imposed in Contra Costa since summer. But the change also reflects an approaching danger that health experts see in recent COVID-19 data, in the U.S., California and Contra Costa County.

The adjusted average daily number of new COVID-19 cases in Contra Costa has doubled in recent weeks, rising from 4.3 per 100,000 population on Oct. 16 to 9.2 on Nov. 16.

The average daily percentage of COVID-19 tests that return positive in Contra Costa has also increased sharply, from 1.9% on Oct. 16 to 3.6% on Nov. 16.

Health officials are also closely monitoring the number of people hospitalized in Contra Costa because of COVID-19, as a large surge in patients could overwhelm the local healthcare

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CCHS Media Line,
925-608-5463

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system. There were 21 hospitalized COVID-19 patients in Contra Costa on Oct. 16, compared to 48 on Nov. 16.

To prevent unnecessary illness and death in our community, Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) urges residents to take the safety requirements seriously and consider what they can do to reduce the risk of infection to themselves and their families – such as wearing face coverings whenever they leave home.

Growing evidence shows that simple cloth face coverings reduce the spread of COVID-19, providing some protection to the wearer and, more importantly, protecting people near a wearer who is infectious but does not yet know they are sick.

"The most simple, effective way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is to wear a face covering whenever you leave home or are around people who do not live with you," said Dr. Chris Farnitano, county health officer. "This may also be a time to consider a remote holiday gathering. We all want to see each other, but it is important to carefully consider the risks before meeting in person with our loved ones."

Contra Costa, previously in the red tier, [already enacted local health orders last week \(/press-releases/2020/1113-Move-to-Contain-Spread-of-COVID-19.php\)](https://cchealth.org/press-releases/2020/1113-Move-to-Contain-Spread-of-COVID-19.php) that added additional safety requirements beyond what the state had mandated, including a moratorium on indoor dining and operation of indoor gyms and fitness centers.

Contra Costa moved into the red tier just last week from the orange tier. The state today changed its guidelines to expedite movement of counties into more restrictive tiers in response to the growing public health crisis. More information is expected to be posted at the state's web page.

Changes caused by the state's action today will include:

- Social gatherings involving people from different households are permitted outdoors only, with a maximum of three households

and 25 people, preferably for less than two hours.

- K-12 schools may not reopen for in-person instruction unless they have already begun to do so.
- Worship services and cultural ceremonies must now be held outdoors only.
- Higher education institutions must move indoor lectures and student gatherings outdoors only.
- Movie theaters may operate outdoors only.
- Museums and exhibit spaces may open outdoors only.

Visit covid19.ca.gov (<https://covid19.ca.gov/>) for more information about the state health guidelines, and state data regarding COVID-19.

For Contra Costa data and COVID-19 health information, visit cchealth.org/coronavirus ([./coronavirus/](https://cchealth.org/coronavirus/)).

#

Julie Enea

Subject: FW: Ad Hoc Committee Information

From: Tammie Snyder

Date: Friday, November 6, 2020 at 10:21 AM

To: Chris Wikler

Cc: Tammie Snyder

Subject: Re: Ad Hoc Committee Information

Thank you again for taking the time to listen to my concerns regarding doubles tennis at public facilities in Contra Costa County as well as throughout the state of California. I am the current Vice President and past President of the Walnut Creek Racquet Club playing out of the Heather Farm tennis facility. We have 1200+ members who have been limited to playing only singles at Heather Farm for a majority of the Covid-19 pandemic. Many of our members are 65+ and are unable to play singles due to stamina or health issues. We would like to have permission to play doubles in line with the other public tennis facilities throughout the county that are currently playing doubles.

From day one tennis has been rated as one of the very lowest risk sports to play during a pandemic. Players are outdoors, are rarely are closer than 6 feet from each other and don't share equipment. When Heather Farm was open to doubles at the beginning of the pandemic players always felt safe playing there as there were staff on site that were following strict protocols. They kept all tennis court and bathroom doors open to limit touch points and sanitized the public areas such as the help window and bathrooms. Players were not allowed to sit on any public benches, share their equipment or gather in groups. Masks were worn anytime someone was not playing tennis. Lifetime staff was always on hand to watch and monitor the situation. Our members are currently forced to go to non-managed public facilities where it can sometimes be a free for all due to the lack of monitors at those sites. Players are touching doors, sitting on common benches, congregating and often not wearing masks when not actively playing.

It seems unreasonable that we can now eat inside of restaurants and bars, go to the movies and have a massage given by a stranger but we are unable to play doubles tennis outside. We have started a petition that has over 800 supporters to allow doubles tennis back to all public tennis courts. I have sent this petition on to the governor's office and am happy to share it with you.

If doubles tennis cannot open to the public there is some concern regarding the mental and physical health of our membership. Our members use tennis as a healthy form of exercise and they pay to play on the Heather Farm courts which they have been unable to use for nearly 8 months now. Many are left to walks and hikes as their only form of activity.

Our membership would also hate to see such wonderful public facility like Heather Farm Park go under due to lack of use. Besides the 11 courts at Heather Farm there are only 6 other

public courts in the entire city of Walnut Creek which are located in Arbalado Park and Larkey Park. Our large membership strongly supports the Heather Farm tennis facility and is anxious to begin using it again.

I look forward to speaking about achieving that goal by allowing doubles tennis at Heather Farm Park as well as at all public facilities in Contra Costa County.

Tammie Snyder

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Tammie Snyder
Walnut Creek Racquet Club



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT AND RECOVERY

4.

Meeting Date: 11/19/2020

Subject: RECORD OF ACTION FOR OCTOBER 15, 2020 MEETING

Submitted For: David Twa, County Administrator

Department: County Administrator

Referral No.:

Referral Name:

Presenter: Julie DiMaggio Enea

Contact: Julie DiMaggio Enea
(925) 655-2056

Referral History:

County Ordinance requires that each County body keep a record of its meetings. Though the record need not be verbatim, it must accurately reflect the agenda and the decisions made in the meeting.

Referral Update:

Please see the attached list of attendees and draft Record of Action for the October 15, 2020 meeting.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the October 15, 2020 meeting.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

No fiscal impact.

Attachments

ATTENDANCE RECORD 10-15-2020

DRAFT Record of Action for the October 15, 2020 Meeting

Minutes Attachments

No file(s) attached.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY COVID_19 AD HOC COMMITTEE

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

OCTOBER 15, 2020

Caller 1	Cora Young	Mike McDermott
Caller 2	Daryn Nabeta	MLS (MLS Law Clerks)
abedoherty	David Shih-Chun Wu	Nicole Bartholow
addiemattox	Denise	Patience Ofodu (iPhone)
Alicia Nuchols	Dennis Garrison	Randy Sawyer
Amrita Kaur	Gayle Israel	richard giessner
Anne Greenblatt	Hannah Robbins	Sam
Anne Greenblatt (Anne Paul Greenblatt)	Heather Cedermaz	Shari Downum
Anne O	Jared Thomsen	Stella Wotherspoon
Annie David	Jasmine O	Stephen Baiter
Barbara Csider	Jim D (Jim Daggs)	Supervisor Candace Andersen
Bielle Moore	JULIE ENEA	Susan Morgan
Brian W	Juliet Don	Tina Sherwin
Call_in_user_1	Karen Mitchoff	Tina Sherwin
Cameron C.	Katrinka Ruk	Tom Warne
Charissa	Kim McCarl	wharper
Chris Wikler	Kimberly Lam	WILLIAM WALKER
Colleen Awad	Lara DeLaney	williamwalker
Collette Hanna	Ibristol	Yehudit
Concerned Citizen (Kirsten VanderVorst)	Lynn Mackey	
	Marian Shostrom#LWV Diablo Valley	



AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT AND RECOVERY

THE RECORD OF ACTION FOR
OCTOBER 15, 2020

Supervisor Candace Andersen, Chair
Supervisor Karen Mitchoff, Vice Chair

Present: Chair Candace Andersen
Vice Chair Karen Mitchoff

Staff Present: Thomas Warne, M.D., Deputy County Health Officer
Julie DiMaggio Enea, Senior Deputy County Administrator

Attendees: See Attendance Record, attached.

1. Introductions

Chair Andersen called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. and introduced the Committee and welcomed Dr. Thomas Warne, Deputy County Health Officer, and Lynn Mackey, County Superintendent of Schools.

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

All public comment was taken under Item #3.

3. RECEIVE status report on the September 14th Updated Health Order on Social Distancing, the State's new Blueprint for a Safer Economy and the related new equity provision, and on school re-openings.

Dr. Warne provided updates on the state of coronavirus in Contra Costa, noting improving trends over the last month or two that have allowed the county to progress, along with other counties in the Bay Area, along the State's blueprint for safer economy. We have progressed so far from the purple to red tier.

The state uses two primary data points for determining where a county falls within the four-tier blueprint system in terms of reopening. One of the lead indicators is the case rate, which is measured in the number of cases per 100,000 people per day, averaged over a recent seven-day period. Contra Costa is solidly in the red tier and looking towards progressing into the orange tier. To do so, the metric that we need to meet is 4 cases per 100,000 in population. Our county gets extra credit because we do more testing than required by the State, so we are practically meeting this target now but we would need to do so consistently for two weeks to move to the orange tier. Contrast this to our peak of 19 in July and 9 in early September, so

we've come down nearly 80%.

These gradual improvements are a testament to the strong efforts that everyone has made around social distancing and face coverings, following the restrictions. Also, it's a strong testament to our successes in rolling out more testing because the other key metric the state looks at as test positivity. The overall positivity rate in Contra Costa County is currently at 2.4%. Our target for moving into Tier three (orange) is <5, so we're doing very well on that metric. We've come down substantially from our 10-15% positivity rate back in July.

In terms of testing, we're not quite meeting our goal of 4,500 tests per day but at 3200 tests per day, we're well beyond the state's minimum and higher than the state average. We have the capacity to test more people; our testing sites are open and have spaces available for quick appointments, so want we want to drive that number up even more because that's one of our key strategies for bringing down the virus.

We've also seen a flattening in daily hospitalizations, the 7-day average of which has been hovering around 35. The absolute number today is 17. Contrast that to six weeks ago when we were at 100.

We're also we're monitoring the cases in 22 long-term care facilities. Currently that is substantially down from our high of 49 back in August, so we're fewer cases in the facilities.

A caution, however, that as we open more, there is greater chance of a resurgence, so we need to maintain vigilance with social distancing, masking, hand hygiene, staying home if feeling sick, and getting tested.

The State has added a new metric called the Equity metric, addressing virus hot spots or disproportionately affected census tracts where case rates can be as much as 10 times greater than other areas. For the county to progress to a less restrictive tier, we need to demonstrate similar measures of success in hot spot communities as we do in the county as a whole. The state has given us a benchmark to ensure that we are promoting the same prevention and control measures every place. We've made progress this regard. Dr. Warne then listed the communities most impacted.

Dr. Warne described what has been able to be opened in the red tier. Elementary and secondary schools are allowed to reopen without a waiver but with plans developed by each public school district. Most are not expected to open in the immediate term. CC Health will continue to partner and provide support to the school districts.

He announced that we now have five weekend testing locations across the county. Drive through testing is available at West County, Martinez, and Pittsburg Health Centers by appointment. See the County website for more information. Weekend-only testing at Bay Point, appointments are optional. Testing is also available in North Concord, which also offers flu shots, by appointment and on weekends. Tests are free. No insurance is required.

Dr. Warne also cautioned about risk factors for virus resurgence: seasonal flu,

winter weather, holiday gatherings. Seasonal flu can also be dangerous to vulnerable people. The best strategy against seasonal flu is flu shots. Free one-day flu vaccine clinics will be offered throughout the county. See the County website for more information.

Dr. Warne announced a heat advisory and public safety power shut-offs and reminded people to take precautions such as back-up batteries if they rely on electricity for health devices such as c-pap machines.

Dr. Warne address some of the questions that had been received prior to the meeting:

He apologized for the difficulty in navigating the testing phone tree; these problems have been corrected. He appreciated the feedback which assists CC Health to improve services.

He said that testing sewage is an excellent and novel idea for limited catchments, such as for a college dormitory or military base. Contra Costa is partnering with the City of Berkeley on a wastewater surveillance project with the Contra Costa Sanitation District.

On reconciling the latest CDPH guidance on public gatherings with County guidance, he said for any given question, whichever guidance is more restrictive applies. Make a plan for social gatherings with a stable group of no more than 12, who agree to limit their interpersonal contacts with others for at least three weeks. Gatherings are recommended outdoors. For example, the state guidance for social gatherings prohibits gatherings of people from more than three households, which is more restrictive than the county's guidance.

Where the State has published conflicting guidance, Dr. Warne recommends that the most recent guidance should apply.

Regarding a homeowners' association common house, social gatherings cannot be held in the common room but can be held outdoors. Outside conditions have no bearing on this guidance. Air purifiers likewise do not change the health guidance.

Chair Andersen invited Lynn Mackey to provide an update on how schools are approaching reopening. Yesterday was the two-week marker where schools can consider reopening. People's feelings are split evenly on the wisdom of reopening. She has been meeting regularly with the school boards and health department. As of today, 27 private/charter schools opened under the waiver system to good effect. Schools can only open if they are able to follow the state guidance. This is much more difficult than may appear. There are many guidance documents, regulatory agencies, and health recommendations to follow. To open, they must be able to follow social distancing in the classrooms. Schools are crowded with high student:teacher ratios. There are requirements to stagger lunch hours and recesses. Some of these requirements will be impossible to meet until more students can congregate. Most schools are discussing hybrid models, staggering instruction so that students receive the same number of minutes of instruction on every day. They are examining other jurisdictions that have already opened. There are many different hybrid models. She encouraged listeners to consult the website for their

school board. All the school districts are still negotiating with their teachers' unions around safety protocols.

The County office has worked with social service agencies to provide subsidies to at-risk student situations to provide safe access to learning. Most school boards have decided not to bring students back before January, which is the normal semester break. Some have decided not to bring students back until the County is in the yellow tier.

Public Comment:

- Mike McDermott asked if the County will harmonize its guidance on church services with the state orange tier guidance, which allows up to 200 people or 50% of capacity, whichever is lower. He also asked for clarification about church offices and meeting rooms. Dr. Warne replied that the County's health order is aligned with the State blueprint. However, the county reserves the right to be more restrictive if circumstances warrant it. Church offices fall under general office guidance. Under the red tier, they must operate remotely. Under the orange tier, they can operate indoors with modifications and encourage telework. Meetings should not be done in person when they can be done remotely.*
- Richard Giessner, a Rossmoor resident, asked about the use of atrium pools that are classified as indoor pools. He said the pools are important for therapeutic purposes related to daily activities. They are hoping to have these pools reclassified as outdoor pools to increase capacity for therapeutic use and exercise. Dr. Warne said the Rossmoor indoor pools have been thoroughly evaluate by CCHHealth and the retractable walls are not enough to turn them into an outdoor space. Chair Andersen asked if there is a provision for pools used solely for therapeutic services. Dr. Warne could not provide a definitive answer at this time but would take this question back to the County's health team. He noted that indoor gyms can open at only 10% capacity and require masking, which cannot be done in a pool, so those are considerations. The good news, however, is that indoor pools can open when the County moves to the orange tier.*
- Yehudit Lieberman said she sees people eating together in restaurants and so doesn't understand why people from two households cannot use the same meeting room if wearing masks. Dr. Warne explained that the requirements for indoor eating are State requirements and permit people from the same household to sit together for a meal indoors. Gatherings across households fall under social gatherings, which are only permitted outdoors.*
- Barbara Csider described trying to get urgent medical care and ultimately needing emergency surgery and having to endure this alone because no personal support was allowed. Dr. Warne explained that each health system determines how it will operate to minimize risks, which is moving in the direction of a combination of in-person and telecare visits. CC Health doesn't prescribe how each system will operate. The State has been revisiting its visitor policies, which will continue to develop in the ensuing weeks as, hopefully, the numbers go down.*
- Jared Thomsen, church pastor, asked for clarification on when a mask is and*

isn't required when outdoors. Dr. Warne clarified that if you are outdoors among your own household and you are socially distancing from others, then you do not need to wear a mask. However, for outdoor church and social gatherings across households, even with social distancing, masks are required.

- *Stella Wotherspoon asked at what tier would state guidance for schools no longer apply. If the County were to regress back to purple tier, what operations guidance would be provided to schools by the county? Dr. Warne responded that the State guidance applies at all tiers. The least restrictive tier doesn't get us back to normalcy. If we move back to the purple tier, there are not additional State restrictions applicable to schools; however, school districts might choose to apply additional restrictions.*
- *David Shi Chun Wu asked if Dr. Warne's responses would be different if the county moves to the orange tier. Dr. Warne explained that social gatherings guidance will likely not change when we move to the orange tier, but the State guidance is evolving so things may change.*
- *A caller asked how many tracers we have per 100,000 residents, if the BAAQMB will be asked to step up pollution controls such as web scrubbers. He said there were studies that correlated COVID rates with pollution. Vice Chair Mitchoff address wet scrubbers, saying there is an established process for approving them. She invited the caller to Zoom into the Air Board meetings.*
- *Attie Maddox, a Rossmoor resident, said the pool is in the same complex as the gym, which is fully enclosed. Whereas the pool is in an atrium. She feels it would be safe to open the pool.*
- *Juliet Don said the San Mateo County resumed allowing having customers serve their own beverages if they clean surfaces and use social distancing. She wanted to know if Contra Costa would allow this. Dr. Warne's advice is to follow the State guidance.*

4. RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the September 17, 2020 meeting.

The Committee approved the Record of Action for the September 17, 2020 meeting as presented.

AYE: Chair Candace Andersen, Vice Chair Karen Mitchoff

Passed

5. The next meeting is currently scheduled for November 19, 2020.

Chair Andersen confirmed the next meeting date of November 19, 2020.

6. Adjourn

Chair Andersen adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

DRAFT