



AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT AND RECOVERY

THE RECORD OF ACTION FOR
APRIL 15, 2021

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 welcomed everyone, provided some brief COVID updates, explained the format for the meeting, and introduced the Committee and Dr. Warne. See attached list of meeting attendees.

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 Agenda Item #3.

3. RECEIVE status report on the County's COVID-19 status and vaccination framework and DISCUSS prospects for holding public and private events in the County in 2021.

Dr. Warne introduced himself as a primary care physician at the West County Health Center and also public health communicable disease.

He announced that there were many new updates from State and on the vaccine front. He reviewed the County's COVID data dashboard and reported good news in terms of our trajectory and success in controlling the virus. He contrasted California with the Northeast and Midwest U.S., Canada, and other parts of the world that have gone back under lockdowns due to coronavirus variants.

California has been more conservative in terms of lifting restrictions and it has paid off, as we are in a much better situation so far by not having a new wave of infections.

Contra Costa's case rate is 5.9 and has been flat as compared to a rate of 62 during the winter surge. Our positivity rate is 1.8% and trending down; our equity metric is 2.5%. Last week, Contra Costa County graduated to the Orange Tier.

Cumulative cases number 66,750, adding about 1,000 last week, but the increase in cases has slowed to 60-100 cases per day, down from 1,000 cases per day in January.

Virus hot spots are El Sobrante, Rodeo, Bay Point, Antioch and Crockett, but San Pablo is no longer in the highest spot.

The County is still doing a lot of testing, about 4,000-8000 daily, M-Th.. There are still cases of infections in people who have been vaccinated, so it is important to continue to test and take precautions.

There have been 767 deaths but none since early April.

Hospitalizations currently number 35, the 7-day average is 32 as compared to a previous high of 300. ICUs are not substantially impacted right now. About 10% of ICU cases right now are coronavirus.

Total cases for Long Term Care facilities is 3,383, hospitalizations of 576, deaths numbered 319. Current outbreaks of five, down from 55 during the surge.

875,000 doses of vaccine have been administered in our county, close to the goal of one million. Total first doses of 61% of eligible population or 566,000 doses. 37% or 342,000 have been fully vaccinated. 12,000-17,000 doses administered per day. Capacity is there but supply has been limited.

90%+ of the 65 and older population has been vaccinated. Dr. Warne is hoping for a good uptick in all age bands. Last week, the County just opened to 16+ age band a week ahead of the State.

Dr. Warne acknowledged a continuing equity gap, with lower rates of vaccination in Latino and Black Americans. The gap is driving much of CCHS's efforts in providing mobile teams and pop-up clinics, working with community ambassadors.

The Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine has been paused due to concerns about safety due to occurrence of Cerebral Sinovenous Thrombosis (CSVt, blood clots). This is a very rare reaction but has happened more commonly following the J&J vaccine than in the general population. Six persons out of 6 million have had this condition following a J&J vaccination. Out of caution, it is being paused for further investigation. It has been only a small part of Contra Costa's vaccination program. Out of 120 doses, only 7% was planned to be J&J so, relatively, a small percent of total. Contra Costa has administered 13,000 J&J doses; there have been some side effects but not CSVt. Questions should be referred to individual health care providers or County hotlines.

Dr. Warne said the County has invested resources in reducing barriers to vaccination by rolling out mobile clinics, available April 15-25 in Richmond, Antioch, Pittsburg, and Concord, and starting trials of walkup clinics. Open scheduling is now available on the County's website.

New state guidance documents and updated blueprint tiers have been released with

changes for gatherings and fully vaccinated people.

For fully vaccinated people doing non-work activities: they can spend time indoors with other fully vaccinated people without wearing masks or socially distancing. Vaccinated people can spend time indoors with unvaccinated people if the individuals are otherwise low-risk and limited to one other household. Vaccinated people are no longer required to quarantine unless they themselves are experiencing COVID symptoms. Vaccinated people should continue to take precautions in public such as masking and physically distancing and need to follow CDPH guidance for gatherings.

Dr. Warne provided a comprehensive review the April 2 State Blueprint for a Safer Economy, effective April 15, which has been substantially expanded for the Orange Tier.

[view-source:https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/#tier-assignments](https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/#tier-assignments)

Social gathering indoors is discouraged in favor of outdoor gathering. Food and drink should be limited to outdoor gatherings. High-risk individuals should continue to avoid gatherings.

Dr. Warne responded to questions asked in advance of the meeting:

- Can communities have movies/concerts in the park this summer? Yes, if they conform to the state guidance, e.g., masking, no serving of food, separation between households.*
- As businesses start to reopen, will offices whose employees are all vaccinated have different guidance than offices where some employees are not vaccinated? There is no information about that right now and we are not anticipating differing guidance.*
- Under the new guidelines, can a local service club or group meet indoors and outdoors at a restaurant? Will they still need to distance if they all show proof of vaccination? There is separate guidance for private events and restaurants, so groups meeting at restaurants must comply with both.*
- Is Contra Costa County contemplating creating its own vaccine passport? Would such a passport allow unfettered travel? Can services be denied for lack of a passport? Would passports be free? These are policies to be decided at the national/state level and involve huge issues in terms of equity and autonomy. There are circumstances where certain venues/events may open only to persons who have been vaccinated or who have recently tested with a negative result.*
- What is the status of vaccinating homebound seniors? The County is working through IHSS and other agencies to get mobile teams out to homes to vaccinate homebound people.*
- Do we anticipate changes in church guidelines? See the State Blueprint for updated guidelines. Recommendation of maximum 50% capacity. Not a requirement, just a recommendation.*
- For an outdoor/live event under 1,500 persons, will there be a requirement for masking and vaccination? No but there will be capacity restrictions: without vaccination would be 33%, with vaccination would be 67% capacity.*
- Will outdoor festivals of 15,000+ be allowed after June 15? Cannot predict, but*

Dr. Warne expects that masking would still be required.

- Cohort size and childcare centers? Formerly a maximum of 14 persons in Purple Tier. Under Orange, guidance is to keep cohorts as small and stable as possible but no set number is prescribed in the guidance.*
- Condo Association, 32 units, self-managed, includes laundry, great room, craft room, guest rooms. Can multiple households use the common facilities and under what restrictions? Can nonresidents use the facilities? Yes, within the available state guidance. Dr. Warne recommends they follow indoor gatherings guidance and post signage with capacity rules. Condo board can set stricter requirements but not less strict than state guidance.*
- When can we expect to see self-serve food/beverage dispensers in convenience stores? Currently not allowed but continue to watch state guidance or call the State COVID hotline.*

Chair Andersen invited public comment. Dr. Warne responded to questions asked in during the meeting:

- Mike McDermott: (1) CDC reduced social distancing to 3 ft for classrooms and schools. Contra Costa's 6 ft requirement is arbitrary; in other counties, it is set at 1 meter or 3 feet. (2) Will children, who have not been eligible for vaccination be excluded from events? Response: Dr. Warne said the social distancing guidance for schools was very important and there were extensive studies done to determine a safe distance. For the CDC to reduce the distancing for other activities, further study would be required. For certain events, those who are not vaccinated would need to show that they tested negatively. Children under two years of age do not need to be tested.*
- Kolette Simonton: When will County Health allow food trucks or grab and go food service? In 2020, it fell under Farmer's Market. (2) Will there be more specific guidelines for senior centers? Response: These activities are permitted under the updated guidance. CCC Environmental Health will need to determine how the guidance applies to food trucks. Senior Centers would operate under informal social gathering setting, which might limit capacity to 25 people or 25%.*
- Kids at Work: Preschool community cannot meet demands for childcare with restrictions on cohorts. Recommends increase to cohort numbers. Response: Cohorts were only limited to 14 under the Purple Tier. No specific limit is specified under the Orange Tier.*
- Rob Goldstein on behalf of Kiwanas of San Ramon Valley: Danville July 4 parade doesn't seem likely but how about Labor Day in September? Response: Cannot predict, but unlikely.*
- Devon Darner: Question about cohort sizes because Contra Costa's website still limits cohort size to 14. Response: Cohorts were only limited to 14 under the Purple Tier. No specific limit is specified under the Orange Tier. Contra Costa website will be updated.*
- Cieli: Regarding festivals, how can we plan and anticipate what will be allowed? Response: We must track the State guidance and plan as best we can.*
- Tina Sherwin: What is the status of FDA approval of the COVID vaccines? Emergency use authorization, not FDA approved. Response: Moderna and Pfizer are submitting data to the FDA.*
- Tim Morgan: 1600 homes, outdoor pools, will it be possible that pool restrictions*

will be lifted as in Alameda County? Response: Dr. Warne referred to campgrounds and outdoor recreation applies to pools. Rules haven't changed substantially other than for groups that are fully vaccinated. Chair Andersen interjected that Alameda County now defers to the State guidelines.

- *Brenda Brown: Childcare cohorts, we need to see restrictions, if any, in writing. Tier ratios would be clearer and preferred. Response: Cohorts were only limited to 14 under the Purple Tier. No specific limit is specified under the Orange Tier.*
- *Kara Klotchman: Produces events for Downtown Martinez, confusion among farmer's market, maker's market, flea markets. What is allowed in terms of crafters? Also looking for guidelines on wine/beer strolls. Response: Unable to respond regarding crafters. Wine/beer strolls would be somewhat constrained in numbers under social gathering guidance.*
- *Jay Lipsen: Nonprofit fundraising events. Any idea about what future changes will take place at state level? Vaccination passports and all the attendant civil liberties issues? Response: The County has backed away from having separate regulations from the State. The County is now synchronized with the State. After June 15, County will likely defer to State guidance, whatever that will be. Bay Area counties provide input to the State.*

Vice Chair Mitchoff advised that County staff is working to update the County website regarding preschool cohort size.

Dr. Warne clarified that the County will follow the state guidance concerning cohort size.

4. RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the March 18, 2021 meeting.

The Committee approved the record of action for the March 18, 2021 meeting as presented.

AYE: Chair Candace Andersen, Vice Chair Karen Mitchoff
Passed

5. The next meeting is currently scheduled for May 20, 2021.
6. Adjourn

Chair Andersen commented that she is optimistic about the County's COVID status and adjourned the meeting at 3:23 p.m.



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT AND RECOVERY

3.

Meeting Date: 04/15/2021

Subject: COVID 19 UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ON PROSPECTS FOR
HOLDING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EVENTS IN 2021

Submitted For: Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor

Department: Board of Supervisors District II

Referral No.:

Referral Name:

Presenter: Chair Andersen; Dr. Thomas Warne,
Deputy County Health Officer

Contact: Julie DiMaggio Enea
(925) 655-2056

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 deems necessary to protect the public.

Ad Hoc Committee

On Tuesday, April 21, 2020, 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 engages with the community and industry on issues of concern, advising the Board of Supervisors and the County Health Officer on possible ways to interpret and apply Health Orders so they will continue to keep the community safe but allow, to the greatest extent safely possible, more businesses to re-open; and to provide common-sense applications to outdoor activities.

The Committee has so far conducted 22 public meetings, having met almost weekly from May through July 2020 and then monthly from August 2020 forward. Meeting topics have covered recreation and lifestyle services; in-home and other personal services; small businesses; family, social and religious gatherings; schools and dining; and vaccines; 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's move to the Tier system of recovery, and the county's movement between tiers from Orange back to Purple (most restrictive) and, five months later, back to Orange, the current County tier. See the next paragraph for a review of the County's tier journey. Written and video records of all prior Committee meetings are posted on the County's website at this [link](#) (use the Previous button at the site to scroll back to prior Committee meetings).

State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy

In August 2020, the State subsequently established a four-tier reopening plan under its Blueprint for a Safer Economy, which became the Committee's primary reference point. Under the Blueprint, every county was assigned by the State to a tier based on a county's test positivity and adjusted case rate (see Tier chart at the end of this section). The State reviews and updates tier assignments weekly. To move forward, a county must meet the next tier's criteria for two consecutive weeks.

On September 29, 2020, Contra Costa County progressed from the Purple (most restrictive Widespread) Tier to the Red (Substantial) Tier, and on October 27, 2020 progressed again to the Orange (Moderate) Tier. Following a resurgence of new cases and increase in hospitalizations, the County, on November 16, 2020 was moved back to the Purple Tier where it remained until March 14, 2021 when the County progressed to the Red Tier. The County recently, on April 7, progressed to the Orange Tier. Additionally, Governor Newsom implemented a Regional Stay-at-Home Order between December 3, 2020 and January 25, 2021 in response to concerns about shrinking ICU capacity. [Click to learn more about tier assignments and metric details.](#)

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

State's Plan to Move Beyond the Current Blueprint

On April 6, Governor Newsom announced that he is looking to move beyond the Blueprint for a Safer Economy to fully reopening California's economy. He predicted that on June 15, if vigilant, all industries across the state can return to usual operations with common-sense risk reduction measures such as masking and vaccinations. The state will monitor hospitalization rates, vaccine access, and vaccine efficacy against variants with the option to revisit the June 15 date if needed.

Vaccines

Late December 2020 brought the availability of two vaccines, one from Pfizer and one from Moderna. Both available vaccines require two injections a few weeks apart. The first injection

starts building protection. A second injection a few weeks later is needed to get the most protection the vaccine has to offer. In response to guidelines from the State, Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) is now offering the vaccine at no cost to people aged 16 and older who live, work or go to school in Contra Costa County. [Click here to request an appointment from CCHS.](#)

In late March 2021, the single dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine became available. People who have been fully vaccinated are advised to:

- Take steps to [protect oneself and others](#) in many situations, like wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet apart from others, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces. Take these precautions whenever you are:
 - In public
 - Gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one other household
 - Visiting with an unvaccinated person who is at [increased risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19](#) or who lives with a person at increased risk
- Still avoid [medium or large-sized gatherings](#).
- If one [travels](#), one should still take steps to [protect oneself and others](#). You will still be [required to wear a mask](#) on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States, and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations. Fully vaccinated [international travelers](#) arriving in the United States are still [required to get tested](#) within 3 days of their flight (or show documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 3 months) and should still get tested 3-5 days after their trip.
- Still watch out for [symptoms of COVID-19](#), especially if you've been around someone who is sick. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should get [tested](#) and [stay home](#) and away from others.
- You will still need to follow guidance at your workplace.

Testing

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. A discussion will then follow regarding prospects for holding public and private events in the County in 2021. Following that discussion, there will be an opportunity for general public comment and public comment on any agenda item. The Committee and Dr. Warne will be available to respond to questions raised during the meeting. County Superintendent of Schools Lynn Mackey may be available to provide an update on local school openings and respond to questions.

The most significant developments since our last meeting on March 18, 2021 are:

- **The County's April 7 progression to the Orange Tier**

Starting Wednesday, April 7 several business sectors and community services can reopen or expand capacity:

- *Amusement parks*: Overall park capacity and indoor capacity will be limited to 25%, including indoor dining.
 - Outdoors with modifications; no meals required to be served
- *Breweries, Distilleries, and Wineries*: Indoors at 25% maximum capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer; no meals required to be served
- *Family entertainment centers*: Indoors for naturally distanced activities like bowling, escape rooms, and billiards; 25% maximum capacity
- *Gyms, fitness centers and studios (including at hotels)*: 25% maximum capacity and indoor pools are permitted; Indoor hot tubs, saunas, and steam rooms continue to be closed
- *Movie Theaters*: 50% maximum capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer encouraged
- *Outdoor sports and live performances with fans/attendees*: Up to 33% and with advanced reservations only. Concession sales will be primarily in-seat (no concourse sales). Designated indoor seated dining area capacity will be limited to 25%. Attendance will be limited to in-state spectators and guests must attest their reserved seats are only for one household.
- *Places of worship*: 50% maximum capacity
 - 50% maximum capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer
 - Open indoors with modifications and food courts permitted with indoor dining restrictions

Contra Costa County must remain in the Orange Tier for at least three weeks before moving into the next, less restrictive yellow tier.

- **Expansion of the County's vaccination program to people aged 16 and older who live, work or attend school in Contra Costa County**

On March 30, CCHS announced that due to an increase in vaccine supply from the state and federal governments, there became capacity to open eligibility to people in the 16-49 age range.

- **Governor's Newsom's prediction for fully reopening the California economy by June 15 if two criteria are met:**

- If vaccine supply is sufficient for Californians 16 years and older who wish to be inoculated; and
- If hospitalization rates are stable and low.

DISCUSSION OF PROSPECTS FOR HOLDING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EVENTS IN THE COUNTY IN 2021

Contra Costa County was classified in the State's Purple and Red COVID Tiers from November 16, 2020 until April 7, 2021. Now that the County has been upgraded to the Orange (Moderate) Tier, questions have been raised about when community organizations might again be allowed to

hold public events, which require significant planning and foreknowledge.

Public Events (Indoor and Outdoor)

Under the new state guidance unveiled on April 2, public events can begin taking place starting April 15 subject to capacity limits and other requirements, such as that workers be tested weekly, that tickets be purchased in advance, that organizers establish designated areas for eating and drinking, and that attendance be limited to California residents. See attached Blueprint for a Safer Economy-Activity and Business Tiers and attached Guidance for Live Performances.

For indoor venues with a capacity of up to 1,500 people, the new rules for Orange Tier counties include: the capacity cap would be 15% or 200 people and increase to 35% if all guests are tested or fully vaccinated. For larger-capacity venues, the capacity cap would be 10% or 2,000 people, whichever is fewer, with modifications and with no food/drink consumption — and could increase to 35% if all attendees are tested or show proof of full vaccination.

For outdoor live events such as sports and live performances, the capacity cap would be 33% and could increase to 67% all attendees are tested or show proof of full vaccination, subject to certain other requirements such as weekly worker testing, in-seat concessions, and California residency.

Private Events (Meetings/Receptions/Conferences)

State officials also unveiled new guidance Friday pertaining to private events, gatherings and meetings. Beginning April 15, outdoor private events of up to 100 people will be permitted -- and could increase to 300 if all attendees are tested or show proof of full vaccination. Indoor events will be permitted up to 150 people if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination. All such events would require purchased tickets or a defined guest list, assigned seating, and no intermingling of multiple private events.

Social/Informal Gatherings

Beginning April 15, outdoor gatherings of up to 50 people will be permitted in the Orange Tier. Indoor gatherings will remain strongly discouraged but allowed with certain modifications.

County Guidance for Private and Public Events While in Orange Tier

The County Health Officer continues to assert that the County will generally follow State guidelines and not create more restrictive policies for our county, unless the county's situation should worsen.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE status report on the County's COVID-19 status and vaccination framework and DISCUSS prospects for holding public and private events in the County in 2021.

Attachments

Openings at a Glance 4-7-21

Contra Costa County Moving to Orange Tier 4-6-21

Governor's Plan to Move Beyond the Blueprint 4-6-21

Blueprint for a Safer Economy Activity and Business Tiers Upd 4-2-21

Guidance for Live Performances, Effective 4-1-21

Public Comment: Advance Questions

Public Comment Marian Shostrom 4-14-21

Minutes Attachments

No file(s) attached.

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 (outdoors with modifications, no meal required)	✓
Breweries, Wineries & Distilleries (max 25% capacity indoors or 100 people, whichever is fewer)	✓
Campgrounds, RV Parks & Outdoor Recreation Facilities	✓
Car Washes	✓
Cardrooms, Satellite Wagering Sites & Racetracks (max 25% capacity indoors)	✓
Childcare Facilities & Activities	✓
Construction	✓
Dental Care	✓
Family Entertainment Centers (max 25% capacity indoors)	✓
Financial Institutions	✓
Funeral Homes, Mortuaries & Cemeteries	✓
Gas Stations	✓
Golf Courses	✓
Government Services	✓
Grocery & Other Food Stores	✓
Gyms & Fitness Centers (max 25% capacity indoors)	✓
Hair Salons & Barbershops	✓
Healthcare, Pharmacies & Medical Supply	✓
Higher Education (max 50% capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer, for indoor lectures & student gatherings. Some courses in indoor settings may be open at regular capacity.)	✓
Hotels & Short-Term Rentals	✓
Laundromats	✓
Libraries (curbside pickup)	✓
Live-Audience Sports & Performances (max 33% capacity, in-state visitors only)	✓
Logging & Mining	✓
Logistics & Warehousing Facilities	✓
Manufacturing	✓
Movie Theaters (max 50% capacity indoors or 200 people, whichever is fewer)	✓
Museums & Exhibit Spaces (max 50% capacity indoors)	✓
Music, Television & Film Production	✓
Nail Salons	✓

Office Workspaces (telework strongly encouraged)	✓
Parks (including picnic & BBQ areas & playgrounds)	✓
Personal Care Services (massage, facials, waxing, electrolysis, tattooing, permanent makeup & piercing etc.)	✓
Places of Worship & Cultural Ceremonies (max 50% capacity indoors)	✓
Indoor Playgrounds (max 25% capacity)	✓
Outdoor Playgrounds	✓
Public & Private Transportation Services	✓
Public Events & Gatherings	✗
Real Estate	✓
Recreational Sports (some outdoor low-contact sports allowed. Higher-contact outdoor sports may be allowed, subject to additional requirements . Competition between a max of 2 teams for select non-contact sports allowed)	✓
Residential & Commercial Maintenance Services	✓
Restaurants (max 50% capacity indoors or 200 people, whichever is fewer)	✓
Retailers	✓
K-12 Schools (must follow opening guidelines)	✓
Saunas & Steam Rooms	✗
Shooting & Archery Ranges	✓
Shopping Malls (closed common areas, 50% capacity food courts)	✓
Skate Parks	✓
Small Group Gatherings (outdoors encouraged, max 3 households)	✓
Spas / hot tubs (outdoors only)	✓
Swimming Pools (max 25% capacity indoors)	✓
Tennis & Pickleball Courts	✓
Theme Parks & Amusement Parks (max 25% capacity, in-state visitors only)	✓
Utilities	✓
Veterinary Care, Groomers & Dog Parks	✓



HOME • NEWSROOM • PRESS RELEASES • CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MOVING INTO THE ORANGE TIER

Media Release

Contra Costa County Moving into the Orange Tier

 Like 494

Tweet

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

CONTACT

CCHS Media Line
925-608-5463

Health officials urge residents ages 16+ to get vaccinated so positive trends against COVID-19 continue

RELATED

- [COVID-19 Latest Local Information](#)

The State of California announced today that Contra Costa County will be able to move into the less restrictive Orange Tier of the State's [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#) (<https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>) on Wednesday, April 7.

Contra Costa County currently has a [COVID case-rate](#) (<https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/overview>) of 4.9 cases per 100,000 people and an overall testing-rate positivity of 1.8% (and 3% for the health equity metric). [COVID-related hospitalizations](#) (<https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/hospital>) are down to their lowest point since October. Meanwhile, nearly 500,000 county residents are at least partially [vaccinated](#) (<https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/vaccine-dashboard>).

It has been five months since the last time the county qualified for the Orange Tier.

"This is great news for our community," said Diane

Burgis, chair of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. “The last few months have been difficult for everyone and it’s nice to see us make more progress in the fight against COVID.”

Contra Costa Health Officer Dr. Chris Farnitano said people should not let down their guard yet. He noted that case rates have plateaued recently, suggesting a slowdown in the recovery. “We are still in a pandemic and people should continue to act accordingly: Keep wearing masks in public and get vaccinated as soon as you can. I still strongly recommend people to avoid most indoor activities with people outside of their own household until they are fully vaccinated,” Dr. Farnitano said.

Last week, Contra Costa extended vaccine eligibility to everyone ages 16 and over who lives, works or goes to school in the county. Currently, people between the ages of 16-49 must schedule appointments through Contra Costa Health Services at cchealth.org/coronavirus ([/coronavirus/](https://cchealth.org/coronavirus)) or by calling 833-829-2626. Other healthcare providers, including the state’s MyTurn system, do not yet offer vaccine to people below the age of 50.

Starting Wednesday, April 7 several business sectors and community services can reopen or expand capacity:

- Amusement parks: Overall park capacity and indoor capacity will be limited to 25%, including indoor dining.
- Bars: Outdoors with modifications; no meals required to be served
- Breweries, Distilleries, and Wineries: Indoors at 25% maximum capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer; no meals required to be served
- Family entertainment centers: Indoors for naturally distanced activities like bowling, escape rooms, and billiards; 25% maximum capacity
- Gyms, fitness centers and studios (including at hotels): 25% maximum capacity and indoor pools are permitted; Indoor hot tubs, saunas, and steam

rooms continue to be closed

- Movie Theaters: 50% maximum capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer encouraged
- Outdoor sports and live performances with fans/attendees: Up to 33% and with advanced reservations only. Concession sales will be primarily in-seat (no concourse sales). Designated indoor seated dining area capacity will be limited to 25%. Attendance will be limited to in-state spectators and guests must attest their reserved seats are only for one household.
- Places of worship: 50% maximum capacity
- Restaurants: 50% maximum capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer
- Retail: Open indoors with modifications and food courts permitted with indoor dining restrictions

Contra Costa County must remain in the Orange Tier for at least three weeks before moving into the next, less restrictive yellow tier.

#

Governor Newsom Outlines the State's Next Step in the COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery, Moving Beyond the Blueprint

Published: Apr 06, 2021

California has administered 20 million vaccines, including 4 million to the hardest-hit communities

State aims to fully reopen on June 15, will continue to require masking and encourage all Californians to get vaccinated

SACRAMENTO – As California surpasses a major milestone in the fight against COVID — administering more than 20 million vaccine doses, including 4 million in the state's hardest-hit communities, and with hospitalizations continuing to steadily decline — Governor Gavin Newsom today outlined the state's next step in the COVID-19 pandemic recovery, moving beyond the Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

On June 15, California will fully open its economy if two criteria are met:

- If vaccine supply is sufficient for Californians 16 years and older who wish to be inoculated; and
- If hospitalization rates are stable and low

Everyday activities will be allowed and businesses can open with common-sense risk reduction measures, including encouraging all Californians to get vaccinated and mandating masking, to prevent illness and promote health. The state will continue contact tracing and testing to detect cases early and contain spread of the virus. The entire state will move into this new phase as a whole. The state will monitor hospitalization rates, vaccine access and vaccine efficacy against variants, with the option to revisit the June 15 date if needed.

“With more than 20 million vaccines administered across the state, it is time to turn the page on our tier system and begin looking to fully reopen California's economy,” said Governor Newsom. “We can now begin planning for our lives post-pandemic. We will need to remain vigilant, and continue the practices that got us here – wearing masks and getting vaccinated – but the light at the end of this tunnel has never been brighter.”

“California has made incredible progress controlling the spread of COVID-19 by staying home, masking, and getting vaccines out quickly to Californians in every corner of the state, including in those communities hardest hit by this pandemic,” said California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly. “In order to take the next step, we must continue to do our part to keep this momentum moving in the right direction, and that means continuing to wear a mask and ensuring everyone who is eligible gets the vaccine.”

When California fully reopens the economy, the Blueprint for a Safer Economy will end. However, common-sense health measures such as masking will remain across the state. Testing or vaccination verification requirements will remain in relevant settings.

For more information on the state's move beyond the Blueprint, click [here](#).

All sectors listed in the current Blueprint for a Safer Economy grid may return to usual operations in compliance with Cal/OSHA requirements and with common-sense public health policies in place, such as required masking, testing and with vaccinations encouraged. Large-scale indoor events, such as conventions, will be allowed to occur with testing or vaccination verification requirements.

California is able to reopen fully and safely because of our commitment to the equitable distribution of vaccines. Today, the state reached a total of 4 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine administered to Californians in some of the state's hardest-hit communities, less than a month after delivering 2 million doses to these communities. The state, in partnership with local government, health care providers and community-based organizations, will continue its extensive efforts to get eligible Californians vaccinated, including its support of expanded hours and access through community clinics and providers, public education campaign, and support for community-based strategies such as canvassing. Equity continues to be the focus of our vaccine efforts, especially as we prepare to fully reopen.

On March 4, Governor Gavin Newsom [announced](#) that the state had set aside 40 percent of vaccine doses for the hardest-hit communities and established an equity metric to increase vaccinations in those communities. Doing so recognizes that the pandemic did not affect California communities equally. Forty percent of COVID cases and deaths have occurred in the lowest quartile of the Healthy Places Index (HPI), which provides overall scores and data that predict life expectancy and compares community conditions that shape health across the state.

California continues to plan for the vaccination of Californians under 16 years of age, protection against new variants and continued tracking and containment of spread. The state stands ready to mobilize additional resources if there is an increase in cases.

###

Blueprint for a Safer Economy

Activity and Business Tiers

April 2, 2021

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Critical Infrastructure	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications
Gatherings * <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social, informal gatherings - No defined guest list required - No testing or vaccination required 	Current: Outdoor gatherings only with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 3 households Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 3 households 	Current: Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 3 households Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 25 people Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications (no food/drink except when following the standards in the guidance) 	Current: Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 3 households Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50 people Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications (no food/drink except when following the standards in the guidance) 	Current: Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 3 households Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 100 people Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications (no food/drink except when following the standards in the guidance)

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity in settings where capacity limits exist and up to 3 households or 10 people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity in settings where capacity limits exists or 25 people or whichever is fewer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity in settings where capacity limits exist or 50 people or whichever is fewer
Private Events ** (meetings/receptions/ conferences) <u>Required</u> mitigation measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchased tickets or defined guest list Seating chart/Assigned seating Testing and vaccination can increase capacity No intermingling of multiple private events 	Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum 25 people If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 100 	Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum of 50 people If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 200 Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 100 people 	Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum of 100 people If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 300 Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 150 people 	Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum of 200 people If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 400 Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 200 people

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Indoor Seated Live Events and Performances **	Closed	<p>Effective April 15, 2021:</p> <p>All venues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect Weekly worker testing program All tickets delivered digital, advanced purchase only Pre-designated eating area (no eating/drinking allowed in seats) – 6 feet of distance. Suites 25% capacity, max three households. <p>Venues: 0-1,500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum 10% or 100 people 25% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination 	<p>Effective April 15, 2021</p> <p>All venues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect Weekly worker testing program All tickets delivered digital, advanced purchase only Pre-designated eating area (no eating/drinking allowed in seats) – 6 feet of distance. Suites 25% capacity, max three households. <p>Venues: 0-1,500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum 15% or 200 people 35% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination 	<p>Effective April 15, 2021</p> <p>All venues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect Weekly worker testing program All tickets delivered digital, advanced purchase only Pre-designated eating area (no eating/drinking allowed in seats) – 6 feet of distance. Suites 25% capacity, max three households. <p>Venues: 0-1,500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum 25% or 300 people 50% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
		Venues: 1,501 and above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination 	Venues: 1,501 and above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10% capacity or 2000, whatever is fewer; with modifications, and no eating/drinking 35% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination 	Venues: 1,501 and above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10% capacity or 2000, whatever is fewer; with modifications, and no eating/drinking 50% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination
Limited Services	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications
Outdoor Playgrounds & Outdoor Recreational Facilities	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications
Hair Salons & Barbershops	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications
All Retail (including critical infrastructure, except standalone grocers)	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Shopping Centers (Malls, Destination Centers, Swap Meets)	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 25% capacity • Closed common areas • Closed food courts 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50% capacity • Closed common areas • Reduced capacity food courts (see restaurants) 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed common areas • Reduced capacity food courts (see restaurants) 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced capacity food courts (see restaurants)
Personal Care Services	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications
Museums, Zoos, and Aquariums	Outdoor only with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor activities max 25% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor activities max 50% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications
Places of Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor encouraged • Indoor strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications • Max 25% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 25% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50% capacity
Movie Theaters	Outdoor only with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50% capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50% capacity

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Hotels and Lodging	Open with modifications	Open with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> +Fitness centers (+10%) 	Open with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> +Fitness centers (+25%) +Indoor pools 	Open with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> +Fitness Centers (50%) +Spa facilities etc.
Gyms and Fitness Centers	Outdoor only with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 10% capacity +Climbing walls 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity +Indoor pools 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity +Saunas +Steam rooms
Restaurants	Outdoor only with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity
Wineries, Breweries and Distilleries	Outdoor only with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reservations 90-minute time limit Seating/tables only Limited hours (service for on-site consumption closed by 8 pm) 	Outdoor only with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reservations 90-minute time limit Seating/tables only Limited hours (service for on-site consumption closed by 8 pm) 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity indoors, or 100 people, whichever is fewer 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity or 200 people indoors, whichever is fewer

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Bars (where no meal provided; follow restaurant guidance where meal is provided)	Closed	Closed	Open outdoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity indoors, or 100 people, whichever is fewer
Family Entertainment Centers ***	Outdoor only with modifications	Outdoor only with modifications	Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity 50% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination With modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% masking except for food and beverage service Food/beverage consumption must be restricted to designated areas separated from activity area Service of alcohol without meals must follow bar guidance (outdoor only) 	Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity 75% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination With modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% masking except for food and beverage service Food/beverage consumption must be restricted to designated areas separated from activity area

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Cardrooms, Satellite Wagering	Outdoor only with modifications	Outdoor only with modifications	Open indoors with modifications • Max 25% capacity	Open indoors with modifications • Max 50% capacity
Offices	Remote	Remote	Open indoors with modifications • Encourage telework	Open indoors with modifications • Encourage telework
Outdoor Live Events with Assigned Seats and Controlled Mixing (e.g., sports and live performances)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 people or fewer • Regional visitors (120 miles) • Advanced reservations only • No concessions or concourse sales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 20%, includes suites with 25% occupancy per suite and suites no more than 3 households • Weekly worker testing program • In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect • Advanced reservations only • Primarily in-seat concessions (no concourse sales) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 33%, includes suites with 25% occupancy per suite • Weekly worker testing program • In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect • Primarily in-seat concessions (no concourse sales) • Max 67% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 67%, includes suites with 25% occupancy per suite • In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect • Primarily in-seat concessions (no concourse sales)

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Amusement Parks/ Fairs ****	Closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 15% • Small Groups - Max 10 people or 3 household groups with no intergroup mixing • Indoor capacity max 15% with time restrictions • No indoor dining • Weekly worker testing program • In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect • Online ticket purchases only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 25% • Indoor capacity max 25% with time restrictions • Weekly worker testing program • With other modifications • In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 35% • Indoor capacity max 25% with time restrictions • Weekly worker testing program • With other modifications • In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect
Overnight Sleepaway Camps *****	Closed	Effective June 1, 2021: Open with modifications	Effective June 1, 2021: Open with modifications	Effective June 1, 2021: Open with modifications

Updated on April 2, 2021:

*Updated Gatherings effective April 15, 2021

**Added private events and indoor seated live events and performances effective April 15, 2021

***Updated Family Entertainment Centers

****Added Fairs to Amusement Parks

Updated on March 11, 2021:

*****Regardless of trigger being met, these activities (overnight sleepaway camps) cannot begin any sooner than June 1, 2021.

COVID-19 GUIDANCE: Outdoor Seated Live Events and Performances

March 26, 2021

Effective April 1, 2021

This guidance is designed to address sectors and activities opening statewide. However, local health officers may implement more stringent rules tailored to local epidemiological conditions, so employers should also confirm relevant local opening policies.

OVERVIEW

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the health of Californians. Reported illness ranges from very mild (some people have no symptoms) to severe illness that may result in death. Certain groups, including those with serious underlying medical conditions, such as heart or lung disease or diabetes, are at higher risk of hospitalization and serious complications. In addition, the risk of more severe disease and death increases with increasing age. As the pandemic has unfolded, we have learned that many organs can be affected by COVID-19 and there are many ways the infection can affect someone's health.

While most persons with COVID-19 recover and return to their baseline level of health, some people can have symptoms that can last for weeks or even months after recovery from acute illness. Even people who are not hospitalized and who have mild illness can experience persistent or late symptoms.

Transmission is most likely when people are in close contact or in a poorly ventilated area with an infected person. Transmission can occur when the infected person has symptoms, is without symptoms, or has not yet developed symptoms. Virus particles can travel more than six feet in indoor spaces and remain suspended in air even after an infected person has left the room. Indoor settings pose a much higher risk of transmission than outdoor settings. When an infected person does certain activities, such as singing or chanting, loud talking, or heavy breathing, for example with exercise, it can further increase risk compared to normal breathing and talking.

Therefore, it is essential that all possible steps be taken to ensure the safety of workers and the public.

Key prevention practices include:

- ✓ physical distancing to the maximum extent possible,
- ✓ use of face coverings by workers (where respiratory protection is not already required) and customers/clients,
- ✓ for indoor locations, ensuring adequate ventilation in all spaces,
- ✓ frequent handwashing and regular cleaning and disinfection,
- ✓ training workers on these and other elements of the COVID-19 prevention program.

On November 30, 2020, the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) implemented mandatory [emergency temporary standards](#) (ETS) to prevent worker exposures to COVID-19 in most workplaces where workers are not covered by Cal/OSHA's [Aerosol Transmissible Diseases standard](#). Under the ETS, employers have obligations including to develop and implement policies and procedures to prevent disease transmission in the workplace; to identify new disease cases if they occur; and, when they are identified, to intervene quickly and work with public health authorities to halt the spread of the virus. The ETS covers topics that are also addressed by this guidance. The guidance has been updated to clarify any instances where public health guidance imposes additional *requirements* beyond those mandated by the ETS and to highlight additional recommended practices for public health purposes beyond those mandated by the ETS.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Purpose.....	4
Required Use of Face Coverings	9
Workplace COVID-19 Prevention Program.....	9
Outbreak and Testing.....	9
Individual Control Measures and Screening.....	10
Ventilation.....	11
Cleaning, and Disinfecting Protocols	11
Physical Distancing Guidelines	12
Additional Considerations for Venues with Live Audiences	12
<i>Entry and Security.....</i>	<i>12</i>
Additional Considerations for Production Departments	13
<i>Creative Considerations for Performers.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Musical Performers.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Considerations for Rehearsals.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Travel.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Casting and Auditions.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Construction Mills and Set Design.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Scenery, Sound, Props, Rigging, Special Effects, and Lighting.....</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Costume and Wardrobe.....</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Hair and Makeup.....</i>	<i>17</i>

Purpose

This document provides guidance for outdoor seated live events and entertainment with audiences to support a safe, clean environment for workers, volunteers, and customers/patrons. Performances that take place in other venues (such as restaurants, bars, or houses of worship) must also follow the applicable sector guidance. Businesses must identify and monitor the County Risk Level for the county the business is operating in and make required adjustments to their operations. For the most updated information on county status, visit [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#). Please note that local health departments can have more restrictive criteria and different closures. Find [your county's local information](#).

- **Across all Tiers:** All venues are permitted to open for broadcast or streaming without a live audience. For any performance with a live audience, venues must follow the modifications outlined in this guidance, including:
 - Use of face coverings is mandatory throughout the venue in all settings indoor and outdoor, unless actively eating and/or drinking. Guests who do not comply should be removed from the facility immediately. Allow for exemptions identified in the CDPH Face Covering Guidance.
 - Performers and workers in the performance sector who cannot feasibly perform or work with a face covering are not required to wear a face covering during the time period in which such tasks are actually being performed on the condition that (1) the unmasked performer or worker is at least six feet away from all other persons, or (2) all unmasked performers or workers and any workers who come into contact with those people are routinely tested at least twice weekly for COVID-19 (PCR or antigen are permissible diagnosis tests for routine testing of performers or workers).
 - Athletes are subject to the following face covering requirements:
 - **Professional athletes** who derive a living from competing in a sport or compete in a sport as representatives of the United States (e.g. Olympic and Paralympic Games) and who are subject to a labor/management agreements between their union representatives and the relevant professional governing organization are subject to the applicable face covering requirements of those agreements.
 - **Collegiate athletes** are subject to the specific masking requirements of the [Institutions of Higher Education Guidance](#).
 - **All other athletes** who are not subject to a labor/management agreement - including professional, semi-professional, and recreational athletes - must follow the specific masking requirements in the [CDPH Youth and Adults Sports Guidance](#)
 - Performers and workers in the performance sector may rehearse indoors if they can wear face coverings and maintain physical distancing at all times, or if they cannot reasonably wear face coverings at all times but comply with the routine testing requirement above. Rehearsal outdoors is strongly encouraged.
 - Athletes, artists and workers must follow all the protocols required by any labor/management agreements, the Higher Education guidance, or the Youth

and Adult Recreational Sports guidance, as applicable.

- Venue operators must allow for at least two hours between events to prevent mixing across attendees.
- Assigned seating is required to permit physical distancing of at least 6 feet between people from different households.
- Limit customer groups to three household units.
- Audience seating locations must be fixed or marked, with readily identifiable signs to indicate by section, row, and seat (assigned seating). Assigned seats must clearly define space for individuals with appropriate space per person (no blanket reservations or group areas), and non-permanent seating arrangements must not be altered by spectators.
- Discourage audience from engaging in yelling, singing, chanting, booing, use of noise makers that require the exhalation of air (e.g. vuvuzelas), and other similar practices that may increase the likelihood of transmission from contaminated exhaled droplets and aerosols.
- Entry and exit should be tightly controlled to prevent concentrations of people on concourses and aisles.
- Shared musical instruments must be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with manufacturer's instructions between users. Musicians must play their own instrument whenever possible (e.g., discontinue single-piano duets).
- Outdoor food and drink concessions are allowed so long as physical distancing is maintained at all times. Indoor concessions must be closed unless otherwise permitted in Orange and Yellow Tiers.

For **outdoor venues that have assigned seating** (e.g. sporting events, live theater performances) refer to the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy to determine the county's current tier](#). The following attendance & capacity limits shall apply:

- **Purple – Widespread – Tier 1:** Venues can open for performances or events with live audiences (see note below on permissible outdoor venues) and must follow the modifications in this guidance, including:
 - Attendance Limitations:
 - Venues may permit attendance up to 100 people, irrespective of size of venue, to the extent they can comply with the 6 feet physical distancing requirement.
 - Regional spectators only, within 120 miles. Information will be prominently placed on all communications, including the Reservation and Ticketing systems, to ensure guests are aware of Reservation and Ticketing Requirements. At the time a guest purchases tickets, the operator must obtain an attestation that the guest's block of seat reservations contains no more than one household and that the guest, and all members of the guest's party are travelling no greater than 120 miles to attend.
 - Venues are not permitted to sell tickets on the day of the event or at the door.

- Advanced ticket reservations only.
- **Red – Substantial – Tier 2:** Venues can open for performances or events with live audiences (see note below on permissible outdoor venues) and must follow the modifications in this guidance, including:
 - Attendance Limitations:
 - Venues must limit attendance to maximum of 20% capacity (based on the design/operating capacity or fire department occupant limit). Visitors in suites count toward this capacity limit.
 - Each suite is limited to 25% occupancy with no more than 3 households physically distanced within each suite, or six people from the same household.
 - In-state spectators only. Information will be prominently placed on all communications, including the Reservation and Ticketing systems, to ensure guests are aware of Reservation and Ticketing Requirements. At the time a guest purchases tickets, the operator must obtain an attestation that the guest's block of seat reservations contains no more than one household and that the guest, and all members of the guest's party will be in-state visitors.
 - Employers who have employees working at Live Outdoor Events, must develop a worker COVID-19 testing program for weekly optional testing of all workers who may encounter other workers, support staff, or performers. PCR or antigen are permissible diagnosis tests for workers/performers where the interval of between tests is no greater than seven days. For workers/performers returning to work where the interval between a prior test has been greater than seven days after receiving a prior test, only a PCR test is permissible.
 - Performers, athletes and workers participating in routine weekly testing are NOT counted toward any occupancy capacity limit. All performers, athletes and workers not participating in a routine weekly testing program shall count toward any occupancy limit.
 - Advanced ticket reservations only.
- **Orange – Moderate – Tier 3:** Venues can open for performances or events with live audiences (see note below on permissible outdoor venues) and must follow the modifications in this guidance, including:
 - Attendance Limitations:
 - Venues must limit attendance to maximum of 33% capacity (based on the design/operating capacity or fire department occupant limit). Visitors in suites count toward this capacity limit.
 - Each suite is limited to 25% occupancy with no more than 3 households physically distanced within each suite, or six people from the same household.
 - Venues may increase attendance capacity to 67% if all guests show a negative test result within the 72 hours prior to attendance or show proof of full vaccination.
 - In-state spectators only. Information will be prominently placed on all communications, including the Reservation and Ticketing systems, to ensure

guests are aware of Reservation and Ticketing Requirements. At the time a guest purchases tickets, the operator must obtain an attestation that the guest's block of seat reservations contains no more than one household and that the guest, and all members of the guest's party will be in-state visitors.

- Employers who have employees working at Live Outdoor Events, must develop a worker COVID-19 testing program for weekly optional testing of all regular workers who may encounter other workers, support staff, or performers. PCR or antigen are permissible diagnosis tests for workers/performers where the interval of between tests is no greater than seven days. For workers/performers returning to work where the interval between a prior test has been greater than seven days after receiving a prior test, only a PCR test is permissible.
 - Performers, athletes and workers participating in routine weekly testing are NOT counted toward any occupancy capacity limit. All performers, athletes and workers not participating in a routine weekly testing program shall count toward any occupancy limit.
- Advanced ticket reservations only.
- Indoor concessions and concourse sales must be closed, except for designated seated dining areas that operate at no greater than 25% of capacity.
- **Yellow – Minimal – Tier 4:** Venues can open for performances or events with live audiences (see note below on permissible outdoor venues) and must follow the modifications in this guidance, including:
 - Attendance Limitations
 - Venues must limit attendance to maximum of 67% capacity (based on the design/operating capacity or fire department occupant limit). Visitors in suites count toward this capacity limit.
 - Each suite is limited to 25% occupancy with no more than 3 households physically distanced within each suite, or six people from the same household.
 - Performers, athletes and workers participating in a routine weekly testing are NOT counted toward any occupancy capacity limit. All performers, athletes and workers not participating in a routine weekly testing program shall count toward any occupancy limit
 - In-state spectators only. At the time a guest purchases tickets, the operator must obtain an attestation that the guest's block of seat reservations contains no more than one household and that the guest, and all members of the guest's party will be in-state visitors.
 - Advanced ticket reservations only.
 - Indoor concessions and concourse sales must be closed, except for designated seated dining areas that operate at no greater than 50% of capacity.

Permissible Outdoor Venues: For the purposes of this guidance, a permissible outdoor

venue for live audience performances shall require:

- A permanent and fixed facility, focused around a stage round, field court, or other central area designed primarily for viewing entertainment or athletics by an audience OR a defined and demarcated outdoor area. Seat assignments must be marked clearly with at least 6 feet of distance between household groups and seats can be reserved.
- The facility shall either be open to the sky with no roof or have at least 50% of the total perimeter open, meaning there are no walls, doors, windows, dividers, or other physical barriers that restrict air flow, whether open or closed. There must be sufficient natural ventilation and air circulation to dilute and disperse concentrations of aerosols effectively without the support of mechanical systems.
- The facility shall be designed in a way that provides operators the ability to control fully the flow, ingress, and egress of all visitors, and to separate performers, artists, and workers from the general audience.
- There must be permanent or added barriers to create at least 12 feet between space occupied by audience members and the focal point (stage or round).
- Refer to CDPH guidance on temporary structures for outdoor business operations for additional information (see [CDPH guidance](#))

Please note that local health departments can have more restrictive criteria and different closures. Find [your county's local information](#).

NOTE: This guidance is not intended for convention-style events or general admission venues/activities where the central activity allows or requires patrons to move around shared space.

NOTE: This guidance does not alter existing criteria that govern return to athletic training and competition without live audiences. In instances of training or competition without live audiences, professional athletes, coaching staff, medical staff, broadcasting staff and others at sporting facilities or events should refer to any COVID-19 protocols approved by local public health officers and agreed by labor and management, if applicable. Collegiate athletes are subject to the specific return to training and competition criteria of the [Institutions of Higher Education Guidance](#). All other athletes must follow the requirements in the [CDPH Youth and Adults Sports Guidance](#).

NOTE: Performance venues have a number of operational aspects and service offerings covered in other guidance and which are available on the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy website](#). Performance groups and venues must review this guidance to apply the appropriate protocols to all aspects of operations, unless otherwise required in this document, including:

- Restaurants ([Restaurant guidance](#))
- Bars (see [Bars guidance](#))
- Gift shops and retail operations (see [Retail guidance](#))
- Hotels and lodging (see [Hotels, Lodging, and Short-Term Rentals guidance](#))

- Movie theaters and drive-in movie theaters ([Movie Theaters guidance](#))
- Trams, shuttles, and other transit ([Public and Private Passenger Carriers, Transit, and Intercity Passenger Rail guidance](#)) Limit shuttle service whenever possible and in accordance with obligations to individuals with disabilities.
- Maintenance and custodial work services (see [Limited Services guidance](#))
- Temporary structures for outdoor business operations (see [CDPH guidance](#))

The guidance is not intended to revoke or repeal any worker rights, either statutory, regulatory or collectively bargained, and is not exhaustive, as it does not include county health orders, nor is it a substitute for any or newly established safety and health-related regulatory requirements such as those of Cal/OSHA, including new [Emergency Temporary Standards](#) that went into effect on November 30, 2020. ¹ Stay current on changes to public health guidance and state/local orders, as the COVID-19 situation continues. Cal/OSHA has more safety and health guidance on their [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Guidance](#) and Resources webpage. CDC has additional guidance [for businesses and employers](#) and for [food and grocery retailers](#).



Required Use of Face Coverings

Consult the [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\) Guidance on the Use of Face Coverings](#), which mandates the use of face coverings for both members of the public and employees in all public and workplace settings outside the home. Complete details, including all requirements and exemptions to these rules, can be found in the guidance, which should be checked periodically for updates. Additionally, CDPH provides [advice](#) on effective practices regarding face covering.



Workplace COVID-19 Prevention Program

As required by the Cal/OSHA [COVID-19 prevention standards](#), employers must establish, implement and maintain a written COVID-19 Prevention Program that is available to employees and their authorized representatives (i.e., union). Complete details, including all requirements and exemptions to these rules, templates for model COVID-19 Prevention Programs, and Frequently Asked Questions can be found at the following [link](#). All references and guidance should be checked periodically for updates.



Outbreak and Testing

Employers are also required to comply with Cal/OSHA's regulations for [outbreaks](#) and [major outbreaks](#), including any [relevant testing requirements for employees and reporting requirements](#). They should review [FAQs on Outbreaks](#) for more considerations and explanation of the regulations.

Consult [CDPH's Responding to COVID-19 at the Workplace](#) for specific definitions on what constitutes an outbreak and all required reporting requirements.



Individual Control Measures and Screening

The Cal/OSHA ETS requires employers to develop and implement a process for screening employees for and responding to employees with COVID-19 symptoms, as well as to address several other individual control measures through implementation of the required components of the COVID-19 Prevention Program. See the linked materials for details on those requirements.

In addition to the requirements under the ETS, employers must:

- Take reasonable measures, including public address announcements, posting signage in strategic and highly-visible locations, and in reservation confirmations, to remind the public and workers that they must use face coverings whenever not eating or drinking (unless exempted per the ETS or [CDPH Face Coverings Guidance](#)), practice physical distancing, not touch their face, frequently wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and use hand sanitizer.
- CDPH recommends the following additional measures to further mitigate risk of transmission or other health risks:
 - Encourage guests or customers who are sick or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 to stay home.
 - Provide resources to promote personal hygiene. This will include tissues, no-touch trash cans, hand soap, adequate time for handwashing, alcohol-based hand sanitizers, and disposable towels.
 - Consider where disposable gloves may be a helpful supplement to handwashing or use of hand sanitizer, such as when handling commonly touched items.



Ventilation

- All businesses permitted to operate indoors must follow the CDPH and Cal/OSHA interim [guidance for ventilation, filtration, and air quality](#) to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in indoor settings. This guidance also addresses ventilation requirements contained in the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 ETS.
- Additional detailed guidance on ventilation is also available from the [CDC](#).



Cleaning, and Disinfecting Protocols

- Employers must implement cleaning and disinfecting procedures, as defined within the Cal/OSHA [COVID-19 ETS](#). Cleaning and disinfecting must be done in a manner that does not create a hazard to workers.
- CDPH guidance does not impose any additional requirements beyond those under the ETS.
- CDPH recommends the following additional measures to further mitigate risk of transmission or other health risks:
 - To minimize the risk of [Legionnaires' disease](#) and other diseases associated with water, take steps to ensure that all water systems and features (e.g., drinking fountains, decorative fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown.
 - Provide time for workers to implement cleaning practices during their shift. Assign cleaning assignments during working hours as part of the employee's job duties. Procure options for third-party cleaning companies to assist with the increased cleaning demand, as needed.
 - Install hands-free devices, if possible, including motion sensor lights, contactless payment systems, automatic soap and paper towel dispensers, and timecard systems.
 - Encourage the use of debit or credit cards by customers, for example, through signage.
 - When choosing disinfecting chemicals, use products approved for use against COVID-19 on the [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)-approved](#) list and follow product instructions. Choose disinfectants that are less likely to trigger asthma by using products on EPA's "N" list that contain hydrogen peroxide (no stronger than 3%) or ethanol (ethyl alcohol) and that do not contain peroxyacetic acid or peracetic acid. Avoid disinfectant products on the "N" list that contain asthmagens, such as bleach (sodium hypochlorite) or quaternary ammonium compounds (e.g., benzalkonium chloride). Follow the [asthma-safer cleaning methods](#) recommended by the California Department of Public Health and ensure proper ventilation.



Physical Distancing Guidelines

- Physical distancing alone is insufficient to prevent transmission of COVID-19.
- Employers must implement protocols and procedures regarding physical distancing of at least six feet between workers and other persons, as defined within the Cal/OSHA [COVID-19 Prevention ETS](#). More details and examples can be found in [Cal/OSHA's FAQs](#).
- In addition to any mandatory physical distancing requirements in this guidance, CDPH recommends the following additional measures to further mitigate risk of transmission or other health risks:
 - Avoid in-person meetings and, if they are necessary, adjust them to ensure physical distancing and use smaller individual meetings at facilities to maintain physical distancing guidelines.
 - Provide a single, clearly designated entrance and separate exit to help maintain physical distancing where possible.
 - Install transfer-aiding materials, such as shelving and bulletin boards, to reduce person-to-person hand-offs where possible. Wherever possible, use contactless signatures for deliveries.
 - Where possible, create outdoor break areas with shade coverings and seating arrangements that ensures physical distancing.



Additional Recommendations for Venues with Live Audiences



Recommendations for Entry and Security

- Protect ticketing offices with impermeable barriers, like Plexiglas. Instruct guests where to queue to maintain a minimum of six feet of physical distance.
- Particular attention should be given to staggered exiting of venues at the conclusion of an event. Establish directional entry and exit into venues whenever possible.
- Workers checking bags should modify activities to minimize directly touching guest items. This could include using styluses or other instruments to search bags, asking guests to open bags and move contents, etc. Where practices might cause direct contact with patrons or their items, workers should immediately sanitize hands or wear disposable gloves and change between each guest search.

- In order to avoid touching attendees' personal items, operators should consider enforcing a small clear bag policy and ask guests to open their own bags for inspection. Consider necessary exceptions for medical and personal hygiene products.
- Consider the use of walk-through metal detectors rather than hand wand metal detectors to allow workers to maintain at least six feet of physical distance from patrons.
- Install and use touchless ticket scanners whenever possible. Ask patrons to scan tickets themselves rather than passing digital electronic devices or paper tickets back and forth between workers and patrons.
- Discontinue coat check and other amenities that require workers to unnecessarily touch guest items and increase the risk of contact of contaminated items from different households.
- Dedicate ushers during breaks and intermissions to ensure orderly entry and exit from and into venue areas. Use ushers to preserve appropriate space in queuing areas and help customers understand where lines begin as additional space may make it difficult to see where to stand.
- Venues that offer food and drink concessions should encourage customers to order online or over the phone, whenever possible.
- Reconfigure merchandise and other retail sales booths and areas to create physical distance between workers and patrons. Encourage pre-ordering, contactless payment, and other systems that minimize the amount of time patrons spend in retail areas. Discontinue allowing patrons to try on merchandise.



Additional Recommendations for Production Departments



Recommendations for Performers

- Use precautions when performing in large groups or ensembles and evaluate the necessity of such activity on a case-by-case basis. Background players, stand-ins, and other non-essential performers on set should not linger in crowded holding areas unnecessarily. Holding/offstage areas should be sufficiently large to ensure adequate spacing between performers, backstage workers, etc.
- Performing groups should consider modifications to rehearsals where face coverings cannot be worn, that break physical distances, require performers to touch their own or others' faces, etc.

- Use microphones for performances to the maximum extent feasible so that performers can limit voice projections, which cause more particles, aerosols, and droplets to be released and travel farther.
- Performers that are minors should be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Children should be given special instruction and guidance on the use of any provided protective equipment and safety protocols.



Recommendations for Musical Performers

- Performers should empty water keys onto disposable or paper towels whenever possible and turn away from others when emptying to avoid fluid contamination. Musicians should discard their own used towels and wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer as described in this guidance after disposal. If musicians empty water keys onto non-disposable towels, the towels must be clean when brought to performance or practice, removed by the musician and placed into a sealed container away from others for laundering, and the musician must wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer.
- Perform instrument cleaning, including wiping down and blowing through, at home and away from others before and after practice.
- Do not share instruments whenever possible. Consider discontinuing assistance from musician assistants, such as page-turners, or others that cannot maintain at least six feet of distance.
- Increase distancing between people who sing or chant and others, or between wind instrument performers and others to more than six feet, when outdoors and not wearing face coverings. Consider use of barriers to add further separation in these cases.
- Wind instrument performers should use additional modifications as appropriate, such as devices to capture aerosols or to redirect air emitted from the instrument.



Recommendations for Rehearsals

- Performances and/or practices where there is increased likelihood for transmission from lack of face covering use or contaminated exhaled aerosols (such as singing, chanting, brass and woodwind playing, etc.) should rehearse outdoors, if possible. Performers must rehearse and perform with their small group to the greatest extent feasible.
- When workers cannot wear face coverings as part of their rehearsal (e.g.

opera singers, woodwind musicians, etc.), operators must modify rehearsal activities, including maintaining strict small groups, implementing at least weekly testing of participants during rehearsal as well as performance season, limiting the amount of time and the number of workers without face coverings, maintaining physical distance between those without face coverings and others to **at least** six feet, installing impermeable barriers between people, ensuring proper ventilation, etc.

- Use precautions when performing in large groups or ensembles. If a large group is required for the performance, minimize the time the full group is in proximity with each other (e.g. rehearsing in sub-groups).



Recommendations for Travel

- Production should evaluate whether travel is essential and should limit the number of workers asked to travel. Check the current [CDPH Travel Advisory](#) in effect and review the [CDC guidelines on air travel](#) and encourage all traveling personnel to do the same.
- Develop a detailed process and plan for travel, which should include:
 - Implementing small travel groups.
 - Ensuring facilities in proximity of venues can support necessary lodging and dining demands and any potential medical needs.
 - Reviewing the local, state, and [CDC Travel Recommendations by Country](#) and avoiding all destinations, both domestic and international, where there is widespread ongoing transmission.
 - Follow relevant local or state guidance regarding self-quarantine upon return from areas of higher transmission.
- Consider lodging workers in apartments instead of hotel rooms where they might interact with other guests or hotel staff.
- Where possible, workers should drive separately in their own vehicles, unless part of the same traveling small groups.
- If a large number of workers are in hotels, consider bus transport. If using shared vehicles, minimize the number per vehicle to support physical distancing and require passengers to wear face coverings.



Recommendations for Casting and Auditions

- Consider remote casting sessions and callbacks with live broadcast capabilities. Encourage the submission of self-tapes instead of in-person auditions where feasible.
- Digitally distribute scripts, music, etc. as opposed to handing out sheets of paper, in accordance with confidentiality requirements.
- Schedule any in-person auditions and callbacks with staggered appointments to accommodate physical distancing. Ask those auditioning in person to arrive at casting and audition locations at the assigned time.
- Encourage people to wait in their cars, not in the waiting area of the casting facility. Consider utilizing app technology that checks people in for their appointment and sends a text when the audition will begin.
- Consider options to simulate handling of props to minimize items transferred between individuals.
- Consider ensuring back-up talent selection and availability in the case of illness.



Recommendations for Construction Mills and Set Design

- Construction mill and set design employers should refer to additional guidance on the Construction and Manufacturing industries available on the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy website](#).
- Consider whether the set design crew can operate separately from production, including fully dressing locations prior to performances without interaction with other workers.
- Develop stage layouts to limit the number of staff and performers on site and maximize the physical distance between performers.
- Additional cleaning and disinfection practices should be developed for key props, furniture, or other set dressing which has repeated and regular exposure with workers. Where possible, limit the number of people who have contact with key props, e.g. ensure such props are only handled by a designated crew member or relevant cast.



Recommendations for Scenery, Sound, Props, Rigging, Special Effects, and Lighting

- Consider options to limit the number of staff needed in back-of-house production departments and/or identify ways they can complete tasks separately from each other. For example, where feasible, the lighting department should be allowed to work alone on set until the lighting is complete before other departments undertake their tasks.
- Evaluate the increased risk from standard working processes involving close contact (heavy lifting, working in confined spaces such as scissor lifts, lighting grids, moving large lamps, textile tying, etc.) and modify those work processes, where possible, and ensure workers have access to the proper protective equipment.
- Limit the shared use of production items to a single worker or a function team (e.g. sound equipment should be handled by a designated person or team).
- Encourage the use of microphones to decrease voice projection.
- Consider having sound crew pre-wire costumes, when practical and feasible, to minimize contact between personnel.



Recommendations for Costume and Wardrobe

- Consider options that allow performers to arrive in their own wardrobe. Where feasible, encourage background performers to also wear clothes from their own from home. Separate dressing areas to permit physical distancing if this is not possible.
- Ensure costume dressing and quick-change protocols are staggered and supervised by wardrobe attendants.
- Each cast member's costume and wardrobe supplies should be kept in separate, labeled plastic bags.



Recommendations for Hair and Makeup

- Hair and make-up crew members should refer to additional guidance on hair salons and other personal care services on the [Industry Guidance to Reduce Risk website](#).

- Hair extensions or wigs should be thoroughly cleaned according to the manufacturer's directions after each use.
- Makeup application tools and supplies should be purchased per performer and used only on that individual. These supplies should be kept in individual cast bags.
- Mix foundation, powders, lipstick, and other makeup items on a disposable palette for each individual. Use disposable, single-use applicators for each person (e.g. mascara wands, lip brushes, eyeliner sticks, cotton swabs, powder puffs, etc.).
- Performers should apply their own minor touch-ups, where possible, to avoid additional contact. Performers should also remove their own makeup to limit contact at the end of the day.

¹Additional requirements must be considered for vulnerable populations. Employers must comply with all [Cal/OSHA](#) standards and be prepared to adhere to its guidance as well as guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) and the [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\)](#). Additionally, employers must be prepared to alter their operations as those guidelines change.



Questions for the Health Officer for Covid Ad Hoc Meeting April 15, 2021

- Can communities have movies or concerts in the park this summer?
- As businesses start to open up with fewer restrictions, and some people are declining to be vaccinated, will offices where every staff member is vaccinated have different guidelines than those offices where only some of the employees are vaccinated?
- Under new guidelines, could a local Service Club or group meet indoors/outdoors at a restaurant?
 - Would there be requirement for distancing if they all show proof of vaccination.
- Is Contra Costa Looking at creating its own vaccine passport?
 - Would vaccine passports allow Americans/Contra Costa residents to travel freely without proof of a negative test?
 - Will businesses, etc. be able to deny service if a patron cannot show required proof of vaccination?
 - Would passports be free and would they be available through applications for smartphones?
- What is the status of vaccinating homebound seniors?
- Have there been any changes, or do we anticipate any in churches/places of worship guidelines in light of the prevalence of vaccinations?
- What are the health requirements or protocols that may still be in place after the reopening of the state on June 15? More specifically, for an outdoor event that would be under 1500 people, is there going to be a requirement for testing, or vaccination, beyond masking requirements and keeping events at or below the capacity of a given space?

Julie Enea

Subject: FW: COVID-19 Questions

From: Marian Shostrom <m.shostrom@icloud.com>

Date: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 11:30 AM

To: SupervisorMitchoff <SupervisorMitchoff@bos.cccounty.us>

Subject: COVID-19 Questions

Dear Supervisor Mitchoff,

I have these questions for Contra Costa Health Services. I hope they can be answered at your Ad-Hoc Committee meeting tomorrow.

FROM: Marian Shostrom

RE: COVID-19 Questions about Condominium Common Facilities

DATE: April 14, 2021

Thank you for the work that you have been doing to stop the spread of COVID-19 in Contra Costa County, especially your work to make testing and vaccines more equitable.

Everything I read about COVID-19 seems to be about businesses reopening. I live in a 32-unit self-managed condominium development in Pleasant Hill. We have a Community building which includes these facilities:

Laundry Room

Sitting Room

Great Room/Kitchen (capacity 80 people)

Craft Room

Teen Room

2 Guest Rooms

During the pandemic, we have been using a sign-up system, with one resident household at a time able to sign up to use each of the common facilities.

Questions:

Can multiple households use the common facilities, and if so, are there any restrictions?

Can we have non-resident guests in the common facilities?

Are people required to wear masks in common outdoor areas except when eating or drinking?

Is the use of Condominium common facilities up to each Condominium Board and residents to determine?



Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT AND RECOVERY

4.

Meeting Date: 04/15/2021

Subject: RECORD OF ACTION FOR MARCH 18, 2021 MEETING

Submitted For: Monica Nino, 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 March 18, 2021 meeting.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the March 18, 2021 meeting.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

No fiscal impact.

Attachments

Record of Attendance 3-18-21

DRAFT Record of Action for the March 18, 2021 Meeting

Minutes Attachments

No file(s) attached.

ATTENDANCE RECORD
COVID AD HOC COMMITTEE
MARCH 18, 2021

Caller 1	Karl Fischer
Ana Maria Peres	Katrinka Ruk
Anne O	Lia Bristol (Troy Bristol)
Anouschka	Linda Olvera
Cameron C.	Lisa Chow (Ichow)
cchs (Chris Farnitano# MD)	Lynn Mackey
Colleen Awad	Madeline Kronenberg
Collette Hanna	Mark Goodwin
Dan Sharoni	Mike McDermott
Daryn Nabeta	Patience Ofodu
Erin Steffen	Randy Sawyer CCHS
Gayle Israel	Sarah Chodakewitz
Hannah Robbins	Supervisor Candace Andersen
Heather Schiffman# Contra Costa AOR	Susan Hurl
GAD	Tina Sherwin
Jill Ray	
JULIE ENEA	Tom Warne
Juliet	wharper
Karen Mitchoff	williamwalker



AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT AND RECOVERY

THE RECORD OF ACTION FOR
MARCH 18, 2021

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 1:35 p.m., introduced the Deputy County Health Officer, and explained the format of the meeting.

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 Agenda Item #3.

3. RECEIVE status report on the County's COVID-19 status, the County's vaccination allocation framework, and school re-openings.

Dr. Warne introduced himself and described his roles as a Deputy Health Officer serving in Contra Costa County's Health Services and as a primary care doctor working in the West County Health Center.

According to the data dashboard (www.cchealth.org/coronavirus), COVID case rates are declining from the peak in January. On March 14 Contra Costa County moved from the purple tier to the red tier in the State's restriction framework. Also, the State relaxed some requirements to move into less restrictive tiers after reaching a milestone in vaccinations administered. Red tier status allows:

- indoor restaurant service (25% capacity);*
- fitness centers and gym re-opening (10% capacity); and*
- retail store capacity expansion to 50%.*

The County must wait at least 3 weeks before moving into the orange tier and must meet orange tier criteria for two weeks (adjusted daily case rate <4, test positivity rate <5%, equity metric rate <5.2%). Early April is the earliest the County could move into the orange tier.

County case rate is 7, adjusted by the State to 5.9, substantially lower than the peak rate of 62 in

January. Test positivity rate is 2.2%, much better than the peak positivity rate of 11.1% at the end of December. The equity metric is 4.0%, measuring the test positivity rate in the lowest 25% of Census tracts in the Healthy Places Index and correlating to those areas with the highest rates of COVID. Total cases in the County are 64,358, rate is flattening. The county is diagnosing 80-120 new cases per day, significantly lower than 1,000 per day in early January.

Though there continues to be disparity in case rates by location throughout the county, the rate is going down across all communities. Most impacted communities are San Pablo, Pacheco and Bay Point (>200 cases per 100,000), followed by Oakley, Pittsburg, Richmond, Antioch and Discovery Bay (>150 cases per 100,000), then Concord, El Sobrante, Pinole, Martinez and Bethel Island (>100 cases per 100,000).

The County performs 4,000-8,000 tests daily, with over 1.2 million tests performed in total. There have been 727 deaths to date, with significantly fewer deaths recorded in February and March. 42 COVID patients currently in Contra Costa hospitals, 7-day average of 46 patients is significantly lower than over 300 in early January. 20% ICU bed availability rate; 10% of ICU patients have COVID. Outbreaks in congregate living facilities decreased dramatically, 13 facilities being monitored for outbreak activity down from 55 facilities in January. Vaccinations have been delivered to all facilities.

Dr. Warne said that although the three available vaccines (Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson & Johnson) may have different efficacy rates from their research trials, they are all highly effective in the real world. Vaccination adds to existing layers of protection (masking, social distancing, avoiding large gatherings). Approximately 484,000 first doses have been administered to approximately 34% of eligible residents 16 and older (318,000 first doses), and approximately 18% of eligible residents are fully vaccinated (170,000 second doses). 8,000 – 12,000 vaccines are administered per day, 7-day average of 8,800 vaccinations.

The County is focusing on improving vaccination rates for Latino and African American populations. 94% of individuals aged 75 and older and 76% of individuals aged 65-74 have received at least one dose of the vaccine. There is capacity to administer more than 70,000 doses per week, and the amount of doses delivered is increasing - 13,000 additional doses from the Federal government this week. The County has cleared its backlog of eligible vaccine appointment requests.

He reviewed new guidance for fully vaccinated people (which is 2 weeks after receiving the final dose of vaccine), such as gathering in small groups indoors and no quarantine following asymptomatic exposure to COVID. A complete list of guidance for fully vaccinated individuals is on the county COVID webpage.

We are in Phase 1B of vaccination eligibility: individuals age 60 and over or with higher-risk health conditions, in congregate living facilities (group homes, shelters, jails, etc), transportation / logistics workers, education / childcare workers, agriculture / food workers, and emergency services workers. The County COVID webpage outlines how to schedule appointments through health care providers, Contra Costa County, the State (www.myturn.ca.gov) or private sector organizations such as CVS.

Three main variant mutation strains of COVID are being followed. UK variant is more transmissible and results in a more severe illness but is susceptible to the vaccine. 4700 cases of UK variant in the United States, 343 cases in California and 2 cases in the County last week. South Africa/ Brazil variant is not more transmissible, but it is not yet known if the vaccine is as effective on this variant. B-427/B-429 variant, or California/West Coast variant, has recently been classified as a variant of concern by CDC and is considered more transmissible. 169 cases of West Coast variant have been identified in the County. The County is participating in full-genome sequencing to track variants.

Dr. Warne responded to questions that were received in advance of the meeting:

- Why is Type 1 Diabetes not a condition for possible eligibility to receive a

vaccine? Dr. Warne explained that the State determines conditions covered. Individuals should contact their healthcare provider, because vaccine providers with access to health records have discretion to vaccinate individuals with comparable health conditions.

- What is the status on getting homebound seniors and their caregivers vaccinated? Dr. Warne responded that as healthcare workers, caregivers could be vaccinated starting in Phase 1A. More than 36,000 vaccine doses were administered to Contra Costa residents and staff working in skilled nursing facilities. Mobile teams reached out to over 70 senior housing complexes, where 97% of residents have first dose, and 47% are fully vaccinated. Planning is underway to reach out to homebound seniors.
- Why is 3 feet distance not allowed for student spacing when the CDC has recommended that 3 feet is sufficient? Dr. Warne stated that CDC has not yet recommended 3 feet as sufficient, although CDC representatives are considering it. State rules are 6 feet spacing between students but allows 4-6 feet spacing when 6 feet spacing is attempted but not possible.
- Under red tier guidelines, are rotary or other service clubs able to resume meeting indoors? Not at the present time. Such meetings continue to take place remotely although new guidance on outdoor events and meetings is expected from the State on April 1.
- What are the rules for garage sales? Follow the same guidance as retail stores.
- Will the County continue to manage vaccination appointments after www.myturn.ca.gov takes over? The State is planning to transition vaccine allocation management and appointment management to a third-party administrator, Blue Shield, which has been delayed. The County does not yet know if it will continue to manage appointments independently or fully transition to the State-run system. Individuals should sign up with both systems.

Lynn Mackey provided an update on school re-openings with the County's red tier status, noting that the decision to re-open is determined by individual school boards. All County school districts reported that every educator was offered a vaccine and was able to make initial appointments. 3-feet spacing model would allow schools to fully re-open. She also noted that County schools report every COVID case to the County and follow OSHA reporting regulations.

The following individuals spoke during the Public Comment period:

- Mike McDermott asked if Contra Costa County will expand vaccine availability to age 50 and over, expressed appreciation for his recent positive vaccination experience at the Miller Wellness Center, and noted that the median age of residents correlates with higher vaccination rates in cities. Dr. Warne said the County is considering expanding eligibility to 50 and over. Chair Andersen stated that she has been told this expansion will happen very soon, possibly in next week.
- (415) 640-3569 from Richmond asked several questions: 1. Which [special] districts are currently being tested for COVID? The County is not publishing tests results. Could the new testing instrument for water/sewage be used in Contra Costa County? Dr. Warne responded that testing through water/sewer districts is conducted via independent research projects and although it is a useful measuring tool, the County has no authority over the data collected. 2. How is the \$40 million mentioned in the February meeting being applied? 3.

CO2 levels are a good indication of overall air quality. Is the County providing assistance to schools or other locations to purchase air filter machines? Dr. Warne noted there are many methods to reduce spread in schools, including ventilation and air filter machines, and believes ventilation will factor into schools' mitigation plans. Superintendent Mackey noted that the county has been helping County schools navigate Cal-OSHA and the State Health Department ventilation guidance. 4. Is the County participating in the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Preparedness Summit? Dr. Warne is not familiar with this summit, but the County works closely with NACCHO, the California Conference of Local Health Officers, and the Association of Bay Area Health Officers. The caller also stated that the listed CVS locations are all in East County. Dr. Warne responded that there are not many CVS stores located in West County. Chair Andersen stated that the Board and the Health Department have prioritized placing vaccination sites in disadvantaged communities to help address vaccine equity.

- Dan Sharoni asked to speak with Lynn Mackey about the continued importance of testing and how he can help keep schools open. Superintendent Mackey provided her contact information via the moderator.*

4. RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the February 18, 2021 meeting.

The Committee approved the Record of Action for the February 18, 2021 meeting as presented.

AYE: Chair Candace Andersen, Vice Chair Karen Mitchoff
Passed

5. The next meeting is currently scheduled for April 15, 2021.

Chair Andersen confirmed the next meeting date as noticed.

6. Adjourn

Chair Andersen adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

For Additional Information Contact:

Julie DiMaggio Enea, Committee Staff
Phone (925) 655-2056, Fax (925) 655-2066
julie.enea@cao.cccounty.us