COVID-19 Update (March 31, 2020, 3 p.m.)

Source:
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This is a summary of the City of Santa Clara’s latest response efforts along with impacts to local events and City programs/services due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency.

Current Developments

- Today, March 31, the County of Santa Clara Public Health Department extended the “Shelter at Home” order through at least May 3, 2020. According to County public health officials, this order extension will help preserve critical hospital capacity across the region.
  - The County said the new order clarifies what's permissible for essential business and activities, as well as some new directives. These include:
    - Use of playgrounds, dog parks, public picnic areas, and similar recreational areas is prohibited. These areas must be closed to public use.
    - Use of shared public recreational facilities such as golf courses, tennis and basketball courts, pools, and rock walls is prohibited. These facilities must be closed for recreational use.
    - Sports requiring people to share a ball or other equipment must be limited to people in the same household
    - Requires essential businesses to develop a social distancing protocol before April 3
    - Most construction—residential and commercial—is prohibited
    - Funerals limited to no more than 10 people attending
    - Essential businesses expanded to include service providers that enable residential transactions (notaries, title companies,
Realtors, etc.); funeral homes and cemeteries; moving companies, rental car companies and rideshare services that specifically enable essential activities

- Essential businesses that continue to operate facilities must scale down operations to their essential component only
- Public health officials urged the public to stay home and emphasized that social distancing is the most powerful tool to slow the spread of COVID-19.
  - The new Stay-at-Home order will supersede the previous order and go into effect at 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31.
  - For more information, view the County’s news release and Frequently Asked Questions.

- Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor provided a video message to the community about the City’s latest efforts in responding to the COVID-19 outbreak. View video.

- April 1, 2020 is Census Day, and this means that the 2020 Census is officially underway.
  - Each household should have received an invitation to fill out the Census in one of three ways: online, by phone or by mail.
  - The current COVID-19 outbreak and Stay-at-Home order has impacted some Census activities, but households can still fill out the questionnaire in the privacy of their own home.
  - Responding to Census helps communities get funding for school lunch programs, medical treatment, housing services, education and more.
  - Visit my2020census.gov to respond online or call 844-330-2020 to complete the survey by phone.
    - Both options include a choice of 13 languages with additional translation guides available online.

Latest Changes for Upcoming Events

- The Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition announced that the Bay Area Bike to Work Day 2020 is postponed from May 14, 2020 to Sept. 24, 2020.
  - For more information, visit the Bike to Work Day website.

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