COVID-19 Update (May 4, 2020, 4 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

- On Monday, May 4, City Manager Deanna J. Santana issued a community letter about COVID-19 impacts on the City’s fiscal situation.
  - Similar to local government agencies in California and across the United States, the City is facing estimated general fund deficits of $10 million for the current fiscal year, FY 2019/20, and $22.7 million for the coming fiscal year, FY 2020/21, which begins July 1.
  - The City has already taken actions to reduce costs while trying to minimize the effects on level of public services, and additional budget reductions will be needed to resolve estimated deficits in the new fiscal year.
  - For more details, view the community letter.

- The County of Santa Clara’s revised Shelter-at-Home order is now in effect on Monday, May 4, and runs through Sunday, May 31, 2020.
  - There are a few activities that will now be allowed, if new protocols are followed:
    - Construction projects
    - Real estate transactions
    - Outdoor businesses such as nurseries, landscaping and agriculture
Use of limited outdoor recreational facilities
  - County public health officials point out the revised order adds new clarifying language for childcare facilities and providers.
  - There’s also revised County guidance for recreational activities and facilities that still includes strict compliance with the social distancing protocol of staying at least six feet away from others who are not part of your household.
  - County public health officials said you do not need to wear a face covering when exercising but have one with you and ready to use.
  - More details are available in the County’s Frequently Asked Questions.

The County of Santa Clara announced the opening of two testing sites, one at James Lick High School in East San José and one at Christopher High School in Gilroy. The new testing sites will open this week.
  - According to County officials, these new sites are part of 80 testing sites statewide operated through a partnership with OptumServe, a health services business, and managed by the State of California.
  - Testing at the two new sites is by appointment only.
  - To schedule an appointment, individuals can call 1-888-634-1123 or visit lhi.care/covidtesting.
  - For more information, view the County’s news release.

Also, on Monday, May 4, Governor Gavin Newsom announced that based off the progress that’s been made in slowing the spread of coronavirus, California will begin to gradually move into Stage 2 of safely reopening the state this Friday, May 8.
  - According to Governor Newsom, some sectors where there’s a lower risk of transmission will be able to adapt and reopen with modifications.
  - This will include some manufacturing and retail such as clothing stores, florists, bookstores, sporting goods stores – all with curbside pick-up.
  - The change won’t include places like offices (telework can continue), restaurants (seated dining) or shopping malls.
  - Keep in mind that all residents must comply with restrictions in both the County and State orders. If the restrictions in the two orders are different, residents must comply with the stricter of the two orders.
  - For updates, visit the California Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response website.

The City’s community partner, NOVA, is receiving more than triple the usual demand from job seekers and businesses for reemployment and layoff assistance since the COVID-19 crisis began.
o NOVA, a non-profit, federally funded employment and training agency, said its entire portfolio of services has transitioned to a remote format.

o For more information about NOVA’s workforce services, view the summary.

**Latest Changes for Upcoming Events**

- This year’s 4th of July All-City Picnic & Fireworks Extravaganza is canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.
  - Cancelling the event now avoids the expenditure of City funds on advanced vendor contracts for the event that typically features live entertainment, carnival games, food and fireworks.
  - The event typically attracts 10,000 participants.
  - For more details, read the news release.

**City Programs and Services**

**Community Development Department**

- With the County’s revised Shelter-in-Place order now in effect, the City’s Community Development – Building Division staff has begun providing inspections for all construction that’s now allowed to resume.
- For more details about how these development services will be delivered, visit the Development Services Delivery Plan webpage.

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