COVID-19 Update (May 5, 2020, 4 p.m.)

Source:
City of Santa Clara Communications/Emergency Operations Center

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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

- The revised Shelter-in-Place order, issued by the County of Santa Clara Public Health Officer, contains new requirements for face coverings:
  - Everyone is now required to wear a face covering whenever they’re at a business, even if it’s an outdoor business.
  - Businesses must post signs reminding customers to wear a face covering when they’re at their facilities.
  - When out in public, people are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering, such as a bandana, scarf, towel, or other piece of cloth or fabric.
  - Per the May 4 County order, the only exceptions are for people for whom a face covering may not be safe. Among the exceptions are children, age 6 and under, and anyone who has trouble breathing or is unable to remove a face covering without assistance.
  - Individuals do not need to wear a face covering when outdoors exercising, although they’re encouraged to have one with them.
  - Public health officials point out that while face coverings can help reduce the spread of the virus, they do not completely stop it. They stress combining the wearing of cloth face coverings with maintaining social distancing, frequently washing hands with soap and water, and avoiding all contact with people outside one’s household when sick.
For more information, view the County’s Critical Guidance on Face Coverings. Also, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/FaceCoverings for tips on wearing a cloth face covering and how to make your own face covering.

Due to the County's revised Shelter-in-Place order, car caravans or car parades are not allowed.
- Per County officials, the May 4 order prohibits all public and private gatherings with people who do not live in the same household or living unit (except for limited purposes allowed in the order).
- County officials clarified that, “parades, ceremonies, and similar gatherings with people outside your household are not allowed, even if everyone stays in their cars.”
- For more details, view the County’s Frequently Asked Questions.

The County is providing a new online resource for COVID-19 testing information and access at sccgov.org/cv19testing.
- The webpage contains information about the County health system and non-government locations where individuals can be tested.
- There is also information about testing for people who do not have insurance or access to a doctor.
- County Public Health also recently released new guidance for all local healthcare providers, noting that many more people can now be tested for the virus, including certain asymptomatic, high risk groups such as healthcare works, first responders and essential service employees (e.g. grocery clerks, utility workers, food supply workers, or other employees with frequent contact with the public).

Meetings

The City Council will hold its next meeting at 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

- Pursuant to the provisions of California Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20, issued on March 17, 2020, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City of Santa Clara has implemented methods for the public to participate remotely:
  - Via Zoom:
    - Meeting ID: 997-0675-9306
    - Joining via computer, visit https://zoom.us/join
      - To address the Council on an agenda item, click “raise hand.”
    - Joining via phone: 1-669-900-6833
      - To address the Council on an agenda item, hit *9 on the phone.
  - Via the City’s eComment (available during the meeting)
  - Via email to PublicComment@santaclaraca.gov
For individuals who do not have the above access, the City Cafeteria has been set up to accommodate up to 10 people at a time and public comment will be given from that location.

With the heightened “Stay at Home” order by the State and the continued order by the County, the Mayor will be present for the meeting with Councilmembers and department heads participating remotely. A limited number of staff will also be present. The meeting set-up is in line with the recommendations of the COVID-19 White House Task Force, which notes no more than 10 people gatherings.

As usual, the public can view the meetings on SantaClaraCA.gov, Santa Clara City Television (Comcast cable channel 15 or AT&T U-verse channel 99), or the livestream on the City’s YouTube channel or Facebook page.

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