COVID-19 Update (August 17, 2020, 3:45 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 City’s drive-thru service window at City Hall, 1500 Warburton Ave., reopened Monday, Aug. 17, after a 30-plus year absence to provide customers with contactless service for certain bill payments during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  o The drive-thru service window is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cash, credit card or check payments are accepted. View video.
  o Customers will be able to:
    ▪ Pay utility bills including electric, water, sewer and garbage
    ▪ Renew business licenses or pay balances (by appointment only)
    ▪ Submit transient occupancy tax (by appointment only)
    ▪ Purchase garbage tags
  o Due to public health concerns, only customers in vehicles can use the drive-thru window and are required to wear face coverings.
  o Vehicles can enter the City Hall parking lot from Warburton Avenue and drive through to the service window to make a payment.
  o For more information and to schedule an appointment, contact the City’s Finance Department at 408-615-2300.

• The County of Santa Clara recently adopted a new ordinance related to enforcing public health orders and other laws associated with the pandemic.
According to the County, the ordinance allows enforcement officers - including any sworn peace officer, County employee, or other individual designated by the Health Officer - to enforce the Public Health Orders by issuing Notices of Violation (NOV) and imposing administrative fines if there is a failure to correct the violation(s) within a grace period of up to 72 hours.

Civil penalties for non-commercial violations (not associated with a business or business transaction), such as for not wearing a face covering in public or being within six feet of others who aren’t part of one’s own household, are between $25 and $500.

For violations involving commercial activities, penalties are between $250 and $5,000.

For additional background about the ordinance, visit the County website.

- The County’s business database is available online to see which open businesses in Santa Clara County are following social distancing protocols.
  - The business database can be searched by name, type of business or location by visiting sdp.sccgov.org.

Meetings

The City Council will hold a special meeting at 4 p.m. Monday, Aug. 17. The special meeting will consist of interviews and potential action to appoint two commissioners to serve on the Parks & Recreation Commission. View the agenda.

- 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: 935 0642 8130
    - Joining via computer, visit https://santaclaraca.zoom.us/j/93506428130
    - Joining via phone: 1-669-900-6833
  - See additional public meeting details below including how to view a meeting live.

The Council will hold its next regular scheduled meeting at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18. The Council will first go into closed session with the regular session starting at 4:45 p.m. or shortly thereafter. View the agenda.

- 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://santaclaraca.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.

City Programs and Services

Back to School Resources

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many public and private schools, including Santa Clara Unified School District schools, are back in session with distancing learning or hybrid options in Santa Clara this week.
  - To help with the transition, the City developed a Back to School Resources webpage as many students are at home to attend their virtual classroom.
  - The City offers a variety of resources, many of them free, that are tailored for students in kindergarten through 12th grade.
  - The Santa Clara Police Department also has helpful safety tips for parents to help make the transition easier for children and adults alike.

Subscribe to the City News eNotification list to receive the latest updates on this public health emergency.