



City Manager's

COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

Friday, June 5, 2020

City Manager Dee Williams-Ridley provided this update on the City of Berkeley's COVID-19 response to the City Council. The reports, which are issued most weekdays, can be viewed at cityofberkeley.info/covid19-city-manager-updates.

Bay Area Health Officers' Indicators to Contain COVID-19

Berkeley's Health Officer as well as the six jurisdictions we have been partnering with created five indicators to measure the virus' movements as well as the development of public health infrastructure. This is where we stand today:

Indicator 1: Cases & Hospitalizations Flat or Decreasing

Current status in Alameda County:

- Number of cases identified is increasing.
- Number of hospitalized patients has an overall trend upward, though it has been decreasing since May 31.

Goals not currently met.

Indicator 2: Sufficient Hospital Capacity to meet community needs

Success criteria: No more than 50% of patients in staffable non-surge hospital beds in Alameda County are COVID-19 positive.

Goal currently met.

Indicator 3: Sufficient Testing Capacity

Success criteria: Sufficient COVID-19 viral detection tests are being conducted each day through private and public sites. The goal for Berkeley would be 245 tests per day.

- Last week saw an average of 79 tests per day of Berkeley residents, no matter where they were tested -- private hospitals, labs or our City site. This is a slight decrease of last week's average of 85 tests per day.

Goal not met.



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Indicator 4: Sufficient Disease Containment (case investigation, contact tracing, and isolation/quarantine)

Success criteria:

- 90% of all cases are reached and contacts identified - currently at 97%
- 90% of cases that we reach are isolated safely -- currently at 94%
- 90% of all contacts identified -- currently at 97%
- 90% of identified cases can safely quarantine -- currently at 90%

Goals currently met

Indicator 5: Sufficient Personal Protective Equipment

Success criteria:

- At least 30-day supply of PPE for all health care providers - **Goal Met**
- No hospitals, clinic, skilled nursing facility, other long term care facility, or first responder agency is struggle with obtaining PPE to submit a request for assistance - **Goal Not Met**
- None have needed to submit a resource request for assistance in obtaining PPE to EOC in the last 14 days - **Goal Not Met**

Overall Goal not currently met.

The status can signal progress or, if conditions worsen, could lead to tightening, as has happened in places around the world. Stabilized cases and hospitalizations permitted more activities using disease prevention guidelines on May 4, as [construction](#) and outdoor businesses were allowed to return. On May 18, [Health Officers used those indicators](#) to loosen restrictions, [permitting curbside retail, manufacturing and logistics](#). The overall status on these indicators allowed Dr. Hernandez and Alameda County's Health Officer, Dr. Erica Pan, to make today's announcement permitting more activities.

Health Order: Social bubbles, childcare for all, curbside library

Health Officer Dr. Lisa Hernandez issued an [updated shelter-in-place order](#) today that further relaxes restrictions on allowed activities. The new order offers much anticipated relief for Berkeleyans who have been eager to resume socializing beyond their households after nearly three months of sheltering-in-place.



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Starting Monday, small outdoor gatherings are permitted between groups of people who have collectively agreed to limit their social activities to only each other - a "social bubble."

Social bubbles may include up to 12 people including children, and must remain stable for at least three weeks. Members of a social bubble may gather together outdoors in public or private settings. During gatherings, everyone over the age of 12 should wear face coverings and stay six feet away from one another.

In addition to social bubbles, the new order also allows:

- Childcare for all: childcare and camps are no longer restricted to individuals working in specific industries.
- Curbside library services: libraries may now offer curbside pickup for books and other materials. Berkeley Public Library anticipates opening up for curbside pickup by the end of June.
- Limited services which do not require close contact with customers, including residential housecleaners, dog walkers, pet grooming, and clothing alterations.

Health Order: Face Coverings Required

As more people mix, the risk of transmission is greater. A [growing body of science](#) supports the idea that use of the face coverings is one of the most powerful tools we have to reduce the spread of COVID-19, as Dr. Hernandez states in the second health order issued today.

The new rules dictate that people must wear a face covering when:

- Outside and when anyone else is within 30 feet (or ten yards)
- In the workplace, except in a private space not generally used by others
- When preparing food or other items for sale or distribution to people who are not members of their household



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The order has exceptions:

- when eating or drinking if they are alone or with only members of their household or “Social Bubble”
- Children between age 2 and 12 should wear a face covering are not required to wear one. If they do, they should be supervised
- Children less than 2 years of age should not wear one
- People with a disability or medical condition that prevents them from wearing a face covering, or others for whom face coverings would pose a health or safety risk

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads through respiratory droplets expelled when we speak, sneeze, and breathe. Without a vaccine or medical treatment and with so many asymptomatic carriers, this is a powerful, simple tool we can all use to protect our community.

Resources

CDC Resource: How to wash cloth face masks

To realize the full benefits of cloth face coverings, it's important to care for them correctly. Face coverings should not be touched with unwashed hands and should be cleaned after each use. The CDC website offers instructions on how to [properly wash and dry face coverings](#) either by hand or in a machine.

Electronic services from the Berkeley Public Library

Although curbside pickup is a few weeks away, the Berkeley Public Library continues to provide a [wealth of online services and resources](#) for the community. Digital offerings available 24/7 include eBooks, eAudiobooks, streaming movies, research databases, and digital magazines and newspapers. The Library has increased lending limits on the most popular resources so community members can maximizing reading, listening, and viewing experiences from home.