



City Manager's

COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

Monday, July 13, 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.

New Indicators Dashboard

Our EOC JIC in close collaboration with our epidemiologist have created an online dashboard to help the public more easily understand the [five indicators](#) used by Health Officer Dr. Lisa B. Hernandez and the six regional partners to track the virus and the development of Public Health infrastructure.

These visualized metrics for understanding the virus' impact are also a microcosm of the significant behind the scenes work that goes on in the City's EOC response. From our homeless outreach to testing to our partnerships with long-term care facilities, much of the work is never seen but is a collaboration among many dedicated staff.

In this case, each indicator is the result of data that staff, led by our epidemiologist, collect and verify -- often requiring collaboration with multiple other agencies and units. Our Digital Communications Coordinator took that raw data to create elegant, clear visualizations using the epidemiologist's lens. What took many hours to create can be understood by the public in seconds -- the essence of good public information.

Examine any of the dashboards created by much larger counties around the region and none can be so clearly and succinctly understood as the City of Berkeley's.

See the indicators page at www.cityofberkeley.info/covid19-indicators.

Bay Area Health Officers' Indicators to Contain COVID-19

To maintain an official record that's easy to share with the public, we'll continue to provide Council with a written update on the indicators. This is where we stand today:

Indicator 1: Cases & Hospitalizations Flat or Decreasing

Current status in Alameda County:



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- Number of cases identified is increasing.
- Number of hospitalized patients is increasing.

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 is 245 tests per day, giving an effective lens into the workings of the virus in our community.

- Over the last week, we have seen an average of 263 tests per day of Berkeley residents, no matter where they were tested -- private hospitals, labs or our City site.

Goal currently met.

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 89%
- 90% of cases that we reach are isolated safely -- currently at 70%
- 90% of all contacts identified -- currently at 91%
- 90% of identified cases can safely quarantine -- currently at 89%

NOTE: The percent of cases and contacts reached, isolated, and quarantined in this week's report are most likely underestimates due to the City of Berkeley transitioning to a new system of contact tracing and case management. Typically, this kind of transition is done



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over the course of a year. Our small but determined team undertook that transition in a week.

Disease containment is a critical tool in this phase of the pandemic and reflects significantly increased staffing for contact tracing. This allows us to see how quickly we move to isolate or quarantine people -- essential tasks in limiting the spread.

Goals currently not 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.

Our ability to meet these indicators can signal progress or, if conditions worsen, could lead to tightening, as we are seeing happen in neighboring counties and across the State.

Testing continues to rise while targeting vulnerable populations

This week, the City of Berkeley tested a total of 856 people between the 6th Street Test Site, mobile testing, and the Optum Test Site on Oregon St. Approximately 73% of people tested this week live or work in Berkeley.

Since not all are residents, not all get counted in our indicators. But testing those non-residents who work in Berkeley not only helps identify and limit the spread of the virus, it also often helps address equity.



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A key component of our equity-driven testing involves our mobile site, which conducted 175 tests this week. Many may not have time or resources to go to a test site. The mobile unit allows us to test Berkeley's most vulnerable, who also may not have access to other sources for testing.

The mobile team's tests included two long-term care facilities -- Silverado Long Term Memory Care and Berkeley Pines. The mobile team also included the Multicultural Institute and Bahia.

Heads up: The state-funded Optum site continues to face a shortage of test kits, and it is not taking walk-in appointments at this time. The delay with processing tests continues and individuals should expect to receive their tests back in 6-8 days. The City's testing team is working closely with the State to try to resolve this issue.

Disease Containment

Two additional City staff members were on-boarded as Case Investigators to support increased operations of the Disease Containment Branch. Next week, the team will receive 5 trained Case Investigators from the state to provide full time support to disease containment activities for COVID-19.

As cases rise, this work is even more critical to help us limit the spread of the virus.

Resources

CDC's weekly coronavirus publication: COVIDView

CDC is tracking the COVID-19 pandemic in a weekly publication called [COVIDView](#). The CDC is using multiple surveillance systems run in collaboration with numerous partners to monitor COVID-19 disease in the United States. COVIDView provides a weekly summary and interpretation of these surveillance systems that will be used to track the progression and severity of COVID-19 disease throughout the course of the pandemic.

The U.S. COVID-19 Surveillance goals are to:

- Monitor spread and intensity of COVID-19 disease in the United States
- Understand disease severity and the spectrum of illness
- Understand risk factors for severe disease and transmission
- Monitor for changes in the virus that causes COVID-19



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- Estimate disease burden
- Produce data for forecasting COVID-19 spread and impact