



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

MUNTU DAVIS, M.D., M.P.H.
County Health Officer

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 806
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 288-8117 • FAX (213) 975-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

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May 8, 2020

Mayor Michael Allawos
City of Glendora
116 E. Foothill Blvd.
Glendora, California 91741

Dear Mayor Allawos:

This correspondence is in response to a letter you sent on April 30, 2020 to Supervisor Kathryn Barger. In the letter you expressed concerns about the economic impact of COVID-19 on the City of Glendora and provided recommendations for a safe and expedited recovery. I appreciate your feedback and have addressed your recommendations below.

1. Provide a specific date when the Safely Reopening Los Angeles County initiative will begin in conjunction with the Governor's California Resilience Roadmap's Phase 2 (Lower Risk Workplaces) and Phase 3 (Higher Risk Workplaces.)

Public Health is unable to provide specific dates for reopening businesses in Phase 2 or 3 at this time. The timeline will depend on how relaxing the "Stay at Home" Health Officer Orders will impact the health and safety of our communities. During each phase, Public Health will closely evaluate and monitor the spread of COVID-19 to determine when the County is able to advance to the next phase. Public Health anticipates the need to space the implementation of each phase by approximately six weeks to account for the virus' long incubation period. This will ensure Public Health is able to track any possible uptick in new hospitalizations resulting from the Safely Reopening Los Angeles County Initiative. Progress will depend on preventing spikes in new cases, so we do not overwhelm our healthcare system and place vulnerable populations at greater risk for infection.

2. Provide specific allowances (e.g. business types) and criteria (e.g. measurable goals) for cities to move through the Governor's California Resilience Roadmap phases and related protocols implemented through the Safely Reopening Los Angeles County initiative.

Public Health will share its criteria and related guidance for sectors to assist cities, businesses, and other parts of society in navigating a coordinated path forward. Allowances will be based on the level of risk to the public and employees, societal needs and community well-being. However, it is important to note that County and city jurisdictions are still required to follow the minimum threshold for compliance set by the State of California.

3. Continue the push to provide comprehensive, free COVID-19 testing for everyone – the guidance and availability of testing within different jurisdictions in Los Angeles County is confusing.

Free COVID-19 testing is available for all Los Angeles County residents through <https://lacovidprod.service-now.com/rrs>. The County's Department of Health Services is also working to increase access to testing and ensuring access through primary healthcare providers to promote better care coordination for patients who test positive.

4. Provide clear and concise information on COVID-19, including geographically accurate counts of current cases (net, not total), current hospitalization rates, and accurate infection and death rates, not just those tested (e.g. USC and County of Los Angeles study.)

Public Health currently posts the number of confirmed positive cases for each city on a daily basis on its website at: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/locations.htm>, while the COVID-19 Surveillance Dashboard reports the number of cases, deaths and persons testes by city here: http://dashboard.publichealth.lacounty.gov/covid19_surveillance_dashboard/. The total number of hospitalizations and deaths in the past 24 hours are also announced during the County's daily press updates, including the numbers of people in intensive care units and on ventilators.

Public Health is working to conduct serologic surveillance studies to better assess the level of infections from COVID-19 in Los Angeles County and will share this data when possible.

5. Advocate for additional funding for cities with a population under 500,000, to address the impacts of COVID-19, including funds received through the CARES Act.

Los Angeles continues to advocate at the State and federal levels for additional funding to support public health infrastructure for the benefit of the entire County as well as resources to ensure local emergency response.

We understand that the closure of businesses has seriously affected owners, employees, cities, and patrons. With strong adherence to the Health Officer Orders, we hope to slow the spread of COVID-19 and allow businesses to reopen as quickly as possible without compromising health and safety. Thank you for your partnership to ensure all necessary measures are being implemented to protect Los Angeles County residents.

Sincerely,



Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

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