



Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry Council District 1



Dear Neighbors,

COVID-19 cases are spiking across the U.S., as our nation enters a second infection wave of the disease.

San Diego is trending upward as well. So far, we have avoided the most restrictive purple tier, but we are edging toward that reality. This week, county officials reported an adjusted COVID rate of 7.0 cases per 100,000 residents. That came after previous scores of 6.8 and 6.5, and is the absolute upper limit of the red tier.

A case rate of greater than 7.0 for two consecutive weeks will put San Diego in the purple tier which will force nearly all non-essential indoor businesses to close for at least three weeks.

Our already-decimated local economy cannot take this gut punch. Every small business not only represents someone's livelihood, but someone's dream.

Please continue wearing masks, social distancing and washing your hands whenever you leave your home. These actions are still the best things we know of to prevent infection, and we must all be incredibly diligent right now.

With gratitude,

Council President Pro Tem

Upcoming Events

10/27 at 11 a.m.
City Council Meeting

10/28 at 9 a.m.
Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee Meeting

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Government Resources

[CA Dept. of Public Health](#)

[CDC](#)

[City of San Diego](#)

[Council District 1 Guide](#)

[County of San Diego](#)

[Office of Governor Gavin Newsom](#)

[State of California COVID-19 Resource](#)

City News

10/20 City Council

The City Council voted on the following COVID-related item:

Amendment to the Lease for 525 B Street, San Diego, CA between I&G 525 B Street, LLC and the City of San Diego.

- The Council voted to approve an amended lease agreement with the landlord at 525 B St., where the City leases 128,201 square feet of office space and 5,239 square feet of storage space.
 - ⇒ Under the new agreement, the landlord will take back 1,232 square feet of space on the ninth floor in exchange for a 50-percent rent abatement on the third floor. This will save the City more than \$520,000 through the expiration of the lease on June 30, 2022.
 - ⇒ With much of the City of San Diego's workforce working from home, it is important for the City to reevaluate its office space needs. Additionally, I have asked if City staff is proactively reaching out to other landlords that the City leases office space from to potentially renegotiate the agreements. I was informed that the City has hired a consultant to start that process. I have requested the name of the consultant and additional details on the plan.
- This item passed unanimously.

The complete agenda can be found [here](#). Archived minutes can be found [here](#).

10/14 Interim City Auditor Issues Memo Requesting City Council Docket Item Authorizing Use of Independent Legal Counsel

The Interim City Auditor issued a memo requesting that City Council docket the department's request to use existing funds in their budget to obtain independent legal counsel as soon as possible. This memo came after the City Attorney's Office issued a memo on September 8, 2020 stating the City Attorney's Office is the only entity with the authority to authorize the use of an independent legal counsel.

Memo [here](#).

10/13 City Council

The City Council convened and voted on the following COVID-related item:

Allocation of CARES Act Emergency Solutions Grant for HUD Programs and associated actions.

- The Council voted to approve the allocation of tens of millions of dollars in CARES Act funding toward the City's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (\$5 million), Operation Shelter to Home (nearly \$4.8 million), and bridge-shelter operations and homelessness prevention and diver-

Testing Information

County Testing Sites

To make a free appointment at a County testing site, please call 2-1-1 or use [this link](#) to make an appointment.

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State Managed Sites

Appointment needed via <https://lhi.care/covidtesting> or by calling 888-634-1123, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m..

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Kaiser Permanente

Call 1-833-KP4CARE (1-833-574-2273) (TTY 711) to talk to a licensed care provider 24/7

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Scripps Health Nurses Line

888-261-8431

7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Mon - Fri, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat - Sun

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SHARP Healthcare Nurses Line

1-800-827-4277

Mon - Fri, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat - Sun

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UCSD Health COVID-

19 Nurses Line

800-926-8273

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day

diversion (nearly \$17 million).

- This item passed unanimously.

The complete agenda can be found [here](#). Archived minutes can be found [here](#).

10/7 Digital Divide Update Delivered to Council's Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

After adding \$500,000 to the Mayor's initial budget proposal to provide disadvantaged communities with access to the internet, City staff provided an update on the status of programs to build digital equity in San Diego.

This update included information on partnerships with San Diego Futures Foundation, San Diego Public Libraries, San Diego Parks and Recreation, and private providers.

Additionally, the presentation (which can be accessed [here](#)) provided a budgetary breakdown of library internet services, parks and rec internet services, San Diego Unified joint-use agreements, mobile hotspots, and WiFi hotspots.

County News

10/20 Increased COVID-19 Testing Helps to Keep County in Red Tier

While the local COVID-19 adjusted case rate rose to 7.0 per every 100,000, increased testing in the region helped keep San Diego County in the red tier. If cases were to increase, the County would transition into the most restrictive purple tier, which would place indoor activities at restaurants, movie theaters, gyms and a number of other locations in jeopardy.

The threshold for the purple tier is a recorded 7.1 cases per every 100,000 for two consecutive weeks. Prior to the adjustment, San Diego County recorded 7.8 cases per every 100,000; however, with an adjustment given by the State of California to counties that are testing at higher levels than the State's median, the adjusted case rate was only 7.0. This adjustment prevented the County from landing in the purple tier.

Article [here](#).

10/15 Free Flu Shots Available at County Clinics

The County of San Diego is ramping up its flu vaccination efforts to lower the risk of San Diegans getting influenza and the novel coronavirus at the same time which could overwhelm our local healthcare system.

Six clinics will take place in October and early November with the flu vaccine available for adults and children ages six months and up.

The clinics, which will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., will maintain the following schedule:

Oct 24

South Public Health Center – 690 Oxford St., Chula Vista, CA 91911

Oct. 27

North Coastal Public Health Center – 3609 Ocean Ranch Blvd, Oceanside, CA 92056

Oct, 28

Central Public Health Center VIP Trailer – 3177A Oceanview Blvd., San Diego, CA 92113

Oct. 29

East Public Health Center – 367 N. Magnolia Ave., El Cajon, CA 92020

Nov. 3

North Inland Public Health Center – 640 W. Mission Ave #2, Escondido, CA 92025

Article [here](#).

Current Cases in San Diego County

As of 5 p.m. 10/23:

Total Cases in San Diego County: 53,928

- 0-9 years: 1,948 cases
- 10-19 years: 5,404 cases
- 20-29 years: 13,534 cases
- 30-39 years: 9,828 cases
- 40-49 years: 7,719 cases
- 50-59 years: 7,318 cases
- 60-69 years: 4,404 cases
- 70-79 years: 2,119 cases
- 80+ years: 1,611 cases
- Age unknown: 43

Hospitalized Cases: 3,827

Intensive Care Cases: 884

Deaths: 867

Source [here](#).

State News

10/19 Governor Newsom Names Scientific Safety Review Workgroup to Advise State on COVID-19 Vaccines

Governor Newsom named a group of nationally acclaimed California physician scientists with expertise in immunization and public health to the State's COVID-19 Scientific Safety Review Workgroup that will independently review the safety and efficacy of any vaccine that receives FDA approval for distribution. While there is no proven vaccine for COVID-19 yet, these top health experts will review any vaccine that receives federal approval and verify its safety, prior to distribution in California.

The Scientific Safety Review Workgroup is a key piece of the State's initial [COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan](#), which was submitted to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Friday.

Press release [here](#).

10/9 State Amends Restrictions on Private Gatherings to Allow for Private Gatherings of up to Three Households

The State released new guidance that allows outdoor private gatherings of up to three households. This guidance went into effect in San Diego County on October 10.

Article [here](#). Copy of complete California Department of Public Health guidance for private gatherings [here](#).