

Office of Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry
San Diego City Council
District 1

September 16, 2020
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September 16, 2020: COVID-19 News Update

Dear Neighbors,

Yesterday, San Diego County met a harsh reality. Unless we lower our COVID-19 case rate by Tuesday, September 22, we may drop to the lowest and most restrictive tier of the state's new reopening system.

The purple tier is reserved for counties with more than 7 new cases per 100,000 residents. San Diego is currently at 7.9.

If San Diego moves into the purple tier, restaurants, houses of worship, and gyms will have to move all operations outdoors, and indoor retail will have to drop from 50 percent capacity to 25. Hair salons can continue operating inside at full capacity.

San Diego will have to remain at this level for a minimum of three weeks before being eligible to return to a less restrictive tier.

Our struggling economy doesn't need yet another gut punch like this. These upcoming weeks are crucial, and I implore you to do everything in your own power to help improve our numbers. Please continue social-distancing, wearing masks outside your homes, refraining from attending gatherings of more than 10 people, and staying home if you're feeling ill.

Even during COVID, there are still things for us to celebrate — as long as we do so with safety in mind. Today, on Mexican Independence Day, my husband, Neil and I are celebrating the many contributions that Mexican culture has made to our great binational megaregion. I'm already looking forward to tonight when we'll pick up dinner from Don Carlos Tacos in La Jolla. We are also looking forward to celebrating Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, on Friday. It seems fitting that Rosh Hashanah is a time of reflection and introspection. Finally, my family is overjoyed that four more grandchildren are on the way (including twins!).

While we are in the midst of these uncertain times, it's important to step back from the trenches of daily news and to find the small joys and to safely celebrate the celebratory.

With gratitude,



Council President Pro Tem

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City News

9/15 City Council

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

- **Citywide Interim Urgency Ordinance to Allow Temporary Outdoor Business Operations for Commercial and Personal Services, Such as Instructional Studios, Barbershops, Hair Salons, Massage Establishments, and Nail Salons, and Assembly Uses, Such as Gyms, Fitness Centers, and Religious Assembly.**
 - This item is an extension to allow instructional studios, barbershops, hair salons, massage establishments, nail salons, gyms, fitness centers, and religious organizations to operate outside on the sidewalk, in parking lanes, or in private parking lots for a full year.
 - This item passed unanimously.

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

9/15 San Diego Announces Proposed Purchase of Two Hotels to Provide Over 330 Units for San Diegans Experiencing Homelessness

The City of San Diego and San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) announced the purchase of two hotels that will be transformed into more than 330 new housing units with supportive services.

In response to San Diego's application, the State of California reserved \$27.7 million in Project Homekey program funds for the purchase of the Residence Inn on Hotel Circle. In addition, the State notified the City and SDHC that it has reserved an additional \$10 million for the purchase of the Residence Inn in Kearny Mesa.

A copy of the press release can be found [here](#).

County News

9/15 San Diego County Close to More Restrictive Purple Tier, But Not There Yet

New state COVID data revealed that San Diego County might move from the red tier of Gov. Newsom's [color-coded monitoring system](#) to the purple tier, which is more restrictive. Purple tier counties have more than 7 new cases per 100,000 residents. San Diego is currently at 7.9.

If San Diego's case rate remains above 7 by next Tuesday, September 22, San Diego County may face purple tier restrictions. This would mean closing all newly reopened indoor operations except for barbershops and hair salons. Indoor retail and shopping centers would also be permitted to remain open, but their capacity would be limited to 25%, with food courts closing down again.

Article [here](#).

9/11 County to Offer Rotating, COVID-19 Testing at Mexican Consulate, Other Locations

San Diegans wishing to get a COVID-19 test may now do so at the Mexican Consulate in Little Italy.

Each Monday, the County will offer free, no-appointment tests from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the patio of the Mexican Consulate, located at 1549 India St. in San Diego.

Article [here](#).

Current Cases in San Diego County

As of 5 p.m. 9/15:

- Total Cases in San Diego County: 43,181

- 0-9 years: 1,419 cases
- 10-19 years: 4,094 cases
- 20-29 years: 10,937 cases
- 30-39 years: 7,912 cases
- 40-49 years: 6,208 cases
- 50-59 years: 5,947 cases
- 60-69 years: 3,548 cases
- 70-79 years: 1,697 cases
- 80+ years: 1,384 cases
- Age unknown: 35
- Hospitalized Cases: 3,335
- Intensive Care Cases: 784
- Deaths: 742

Source [here](#).

State News

9/9 Governor Newsom Signs Bill Ensuring Immediate Access to Paid Sick Leave for Every California Employee

Governor Newsom signed AB 1867, which extended paid sick leave protections to all of California's workforce. This new legislation built on an earlier bill which expanded paid sick days to employees in the food sector. This new addition means that all employees who have been exposed, or who test positive for COVID-19, will have access to paid sick days for the rest of the 2020 calendar year.

Press release [here](#).

Government Resources

CA Dept. of Public Health:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

City of San Diego: <https://www.sandiego.gov/coronavirus>

Council District 1 Guide: [here](#)

County of San Diego: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/coronavirus.html>

Office of Governor Gavin Newsom: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/>

State of California Official COVID-19 resource: <https://covid19.ca.gov/>

Testing Information

State Managed Testing Sites

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

State Managed Testing Locations:

- Grossmont College, 8800 Grossmont College Dr., El Cajon, CA 92020
- Former Sears in Chula Vista, 565 Broadway, Chula Vista, CA 91910
- North Inland Live Well Center in Escondido, 649 W Mission Ave., Escondido, CA 92025
- Tubman-Chavez Center at 415 Euclid Avenue
- San Diego County Assessor Office at 200 S. Magnolia Avenue in El Cajon

County of San Diego Testing Sites

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

2-1-1 San Diego

For County updates about the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on our community, text COSD COVID19 to 468311.

Kaiser Permanente

Concerned about your specific health condition? Call 1-833-KP4CARE (1-833-574-2273) (TTY 711) to talk to a licensed care provider 24/7. If you think you have COVID-19 symptoms or believe you've been exposed, it's important to call before coming into a clinic or doctor visit.

[Link to website here](#)

Scripps Health COVID-19 Nurses Line

888-261-8431 (7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Mon - Fri, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat - Sun)

Those determined to have a risk of infection might be instructed to go to one of three cabanas located outside our urgent care centers for further testing or, if necessary, to an urgent care center or emergency room for further treatment.

The cabanas are located outside of:

- Scripps Clinic Torrey Pines (opening Friday, March 13)
- Scripps Clinic Rancho Bernardo (opening Tuesday, March 17)
- Scripps Coastal Medical Center Vista (opening Tuesday, March 17)

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)

UCSD Health COVID-19 Nurses Line

800-926-8273 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day)

Patients should not walk in or schedule an appointment online. They should first call the COVID-19 nurse line BEFORE going to any hospital or clinic. After answering questions, they will be directed to a video visit or a location for the necessary evaluation and testing.

Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry represents San Diego City Council District 1, which includes the communities of Carmel Valley, Del Mar Heights, Del Mar Mesa, La Jolla, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Torrey Hills, Torrey Pines, and University City.