March 19, 2021

Opening Up and Staying Safe

It’s hard to believe it’s been over a year since our city took emergency steps to protect us and our neighbors from the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, we’ve lost family, friends and neighbors, especially during a terrible surge during the holidays.

Conditions over the past few months have improved dramatically with thousands of people getting vaccinated every day and new COVID-19 cases in San Diego dropping to lower levels, many businesses can now re-open in limited capacity.

Just because we’ve reopened a little doesn’t mean we can forget about the safety measures that helped us arrive at this point. Wear a mask. Wash your hands. Stay at a safe distance. Let’s continue to protect ourselves and our neighbors and prevent this virus from resurging. We’re starting to see a rise in cases in some parts of the country and we don’t want to open up only to shut down again.

To help us stay healthy and recover, my staff and I will regularly share this bulletin to make sure you have the latest resources you need to access vaccines, stay informed of the latest City and County COVID-19 news and take advantage of the many resources available like rent relief, small business grants and much more. My team will also keep you updated on the latest from the American Rescue Plan and how those funds will be spent in the community.

Please feel free to share this bulletin with those who might find this information useful. You can also sign up for regular email updates on my website by clicking here: Council President Jennifer Campbell (District 2)
First Meeting of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Committee

My colleague Marni Von Wilpert and I are co-chairing the new COVID-19 Response and Recovery Committee at City Council. We formed the committee to make sure the City of San Diego is responding in the best way possible to overcome the negative health and economic effects of the pandemic. If you’re interested in participating or commenting, please find the committee information on this link to learn more.

Getting Vaccinated

It is so important to get these safe and effective vaccines to protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID-19. One of the best ways to make a vaccination appointment is through the County’s website which lists all the vaccination sites by day.

For those who have issues accessing technology, you can call 2-1-1 to get help scheduling an appointment.

Some vaccinations are also available at local pharmacies:
- Schedule a vaccine appointment at CVS
- Vaccinations also may be available and Vons, Walgreens, Albertson’s and Ralph’s locations. You can click here to try to schedule a vaccine appointment at a retail pharmacy.

Rent Relief

The City of San Diego COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program helps to pay past-due, unpaid rent and utilities for individuals and families with low income in the City of San Diego who experience financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To apply or get more information about whether you’re eligible, click here.

Where’s My Stimulus Check?

If you’re eligible or an economic impact payment and haven’t yet received your funds, click this IRS link to track your payment. You may be required to enter personal information.
Finding a Job

With San Diego dropping into the red tier, there is hope that businesses and companies begin hiring again. For help finding a job or getting training, you can go to the San Diego Workforce Partnership.

Help for Small Businesses

**Temporary Outdoor Business Operation Grants** - To assist small businesses with adapting operations amid COVID-19, the City of San Diego is now offering grants up to $3,000 to businesses constructing outdoor decks and platforms compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). As much as an additional $2,000-for a maximum grant of $5,000--will be available for businesses located in low- and moderate-income areas (LMA) or owned by a sole proprietor or majority group who meets federal low- and moderate-income (LMI) requirements. To apply and learn more, click here.

**PPP Loans and the Small Business Administration** - The SBA has a variety of funding options for businesses affected by the pandemic. To explore options, visit the SBA's Small Business Guidance and Loan resources page.