



CITY OF SAN MATEO

City Hall
330 W. 20th Avenue
San Mateo CA 94403
www.cityofsanmateo.org

Agenda Report

Agenda Number: 18

Section Name: {{section.name}}

File ID: {{item.tracking_number}}

TO: City Council

FROM: Drew Corbett, City Manager

PREPARED BY: City Manager's Office

MEETING DATE: January 19, 2021

SUBJECT:

COVID-19 Update #23 and Consideration for Letter of Support for Assembly Bills 15 and 16

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive update on operational impacts and other City efforts related to COVID-19 and confirm rules and regulations issued by the City Manager acting as the Director of Emergency Services in response to declared emergency, and consider request from a community group to send a letter of support on Assembly Bills 15 and 16.

BACKGROUND:

On March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency in response to the outbreak of respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus now referred to as COVID-19. As a consequence of this proclamation the City Manager, acting as the City's Director of Emergency Services, was authorized to make and issue rules and regulations on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property as affected by such emergency.

On March 16, 2020, the County of San Mateo Health Officer issued an order to "shelter in place", effective March 17, 2020 at 12:01 am. This order was extended and amended several times between March 17th and June 17th, when the County Health Officer lifted the local shelter-in-place order to align San Mateo County with the State of California's shelter-in-place order. At that time, businesses allowed to operate and activities allowed to occur became subject to the State's orders, with some additional local guidance provided by the County's Health Officer.

The City Council also declared a local health emergency on March 16th. In addition to positioning the City for potential mutual aid and cost recovery opportunities, the emergency proclamation also provides the City Manager broader authority to be able to expeditiously address issues related to the emergency. With that said, actions taken by the City Manager outside of the general authority of the duties provided for in the City Charter are subject to confirmation by Council as soon as practicable.

On August 28th, the State announced revised criteria for loosening and tightening restrictions on businesses and activities under its new framework for reducing COVID-19 called "Blueprint for a Safer Economy." This new framework went into effect on August 31st, and San Mateo County was initially in the purple tier (widespread COVID-19 transmission). On September 22nd, the County was moved into the red tier (substantial COVID-19 transmission), and on October 27th, the County was moved into the orange tier (moderate COVID-19 transmission). With positive case counts beginning to rise again after being on the decline, however, the County was moved back to the orange tier on November 16th and then back to the most restrictive purple tier on November 29th.

With positive cases continuing to mount and hospitalizations rising, on December 3rd, the State announced a Regional Stay Home Order would go into effect for any region where Intensive Care Unit (ICU) capacity fell below 15%. On December 16th, ICU capacity in the region fell below 15% and the Regional Stay Home Order went into effect on

December 17th at 11:59 pm.

On January 14th, Council received a letter from the Peninsula Solidarity Cohort requesting Council's support for Assembly Bills (AB) 15 and 16 (Attachment 1). AB 15 extends the statewide eviction protections for people who cannot pay rent due to the pandemic for the duration of economic hardship. AB 16 provides a framework for addressing the severe rent debt that will provide urgent relief for both renters and landlords. Should Council be interested in supporting these bills, staff can be directed to write a letter to the Assembly on behalf of the Mayor.

BUDGET IMPACT:

There is no budget impact for receiving this informational report.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

This informational report is not a project subject to CEQA, because it is an organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5).)

NOTICE PROVIDED

All meeting noticing requirements were met.

ATTACHMENTS

Att 1 - Peninsula Solidarity Cohort Letter

STAFF CONTACT

Drew Corbett, City Manager
dcorbett@cityofsanmateo.org
(650) 522-7002