



CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council **DATE:** June 14, 2021
FROM: Matthew Bronson, City Manager
PREPARED BY: Matthew Bronson, City Manager
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Response Update

RECOMMENDATION

Receive an update on the countywide and City response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

BACKGROUND

The City continues its work in addressing the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic following the direction of the County Public Health Department in coordination with other local agencies. The following is an update on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic in the county as well as the City's continued response since the last regular Council meeting on May 24.

Countywide Status

As of June 9, San Luis Obispo County has 21,387 confirmed COVID-19 cases with six current hospitalizations and 39 individuals at home and 21,081 individuals recovered (approximately 99%). This is only a 1.4% increase in new cases over the past three weeks and a 40% decrease in the number of active cases. These numbers continue the positive trends in case numbers and as a reference, there were approximately 3,500 active cases at the peak of the holiday surge in mid-January compared with 45 currently. Approximately 37% (8,039) of the confirmed cases in this county are in North County with 4,200 in Paso Robles and 3,839 in Atascadero, Templeton, and elsewhere. Approximately 33% (7,106) of cases are in the central part of the county with the vast majority (4,039) in San Luis Obispo.

In South County, there has been a total of 5,007 confirmed cases (approximately 23% of countywide cases) with 1,502 in Arroyo Grande, 1,582 in Nipomo, 887 in Grover Beach, 692 in Oceano, and 344 in Pismo Beach. Case numbers in Grover Beach per 1,000 residents (65) continue to be lower than Arroyo Grande (83) and Oceano (96) though higher than Pismo Beach (42). There has also only been an increase of two cases in Grover Beach over the past three weeks similar to the countywide trends in case numbers.

As the Council is aware, the State uses an approach called the *Blueprint for a Safer Economy* to determine what businesses can and cannot open safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. Every county is assigned to a tier based on its test positivity and adjusted case rate and counties are moved to less or more restrictive tiers based on changing metrics including a "health equity" metric for census tracts with lower health conditions that must be met to move to a less restrictive tier. The table on the following page shows the four tiers of the *Blueprint* approach and the metrics used to determine placement based on the number of vaccinations administered in the state:

Table 1

WIDESPREAD	SUBSTANTIAL	MODERATE	MINIMAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 10.0 daily new cases (per 100k)* • More than 8.0% positive test for entire county** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6.0 – 10.0 daily new cases (per 100k)* • 5.0 – 8.0% positive tests for entire county** • Less than 8.1% positive tests for health equity quartile** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.0 – 5.9 daily new cases (per 100k)* • 2.0 – 4.9% positive tests for entire county** • Less than 5.3% positive tests for health equity quartile** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 2.0 daily new cases (per 100k*) • Less than 2.0% positive tests for entire county** • Less than 2.2% positive tests for health equity quartile**

On June 9, San Luis Obispo County moved to the “yellow” or “Minimal” tier based on the *Blueprint*. The county currently has an adjusted case rate of 1.6 new cases per day per 100,000 population on a rolling seven-day average and a positivity rate of 1.0% and health equity metric of 1.0%. Attachment 1 shows the comparison of restrictions under each tier for the Council’s reference. The State has announced that it plans to lift remaining restrictions for businesses and other activities including the face coverings mandate on June 15. This plan is entitled *Beyond the Blueprint* and would effectively end the four-color tiers of restrictions and allow normal business operations and activities assuming vaccine supply remained sufficient, and hospitalizations remained low.

The City continues to monitor these trends carefully in conjunction with the County and other local agencies and carry out compliance work to protect public health and safety. The City remains committed to helping achieve community compliance with State and local orders prior to the imminent lifting of the remaining restrictions. The County continues to work diligently on vaccine distribution which has been key to ending this pandemic. On June 4, the County closed its three mass vaccination sites in San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles, and Arroyo Grande due to decreased demand for vaccinations at these locations given greater availability of vaccines at pharmacies. The County administered a total of 165,437 vaccine doses at the three vaccination sites. Individuals 12 years or older can sign up for a vaccine appointment through the County’s website at [COVID-19 Vaccines in SLO County - San Luis Obispo County \(recoverslo.org\)](https://recoverslo.org).

Business Assistance Update

The City continues to work with the South County Chambers of Commerce on the “#BuyLocal” gift card program launched on February 10 to support businesses in the continued economic recovery from COVID-19. The City committed to providing up to \$50,000 to purchase gift cards to participating Grover Beach businesses given to customers who spend at least \$100 at a retailer, restaurant, or other business within the city and submit receipts to the Chamber. There are 27 businesses participating in this program with the list of businesses available on the Chamber’s website where people can submit receipts ([Grover Beach #BuyLocal Program \(jotform.com\)](https://jotform.com)). As of June 9, there have been 1,458 individual receipts submitted representing approximately \$121,499 in customer spending. Counting the \$38,050 spent to date purchasing gift cards at participating businesses, there has been approximately \$160,000 in additional spending at local businesses since the program began. The #BuyLocal program continues to provide significant economic benefit by incentivizing customer spending at local businesses by residents and visitors. The City and Chamber plan to continue this program through July 31 using available funds.

City Response Update

Lastly, the City continues to provide services to our community in accordance with statewide orders and public health guidelines. Public access to City Hall was reopened on May 24 with limited hours initially of 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Monday through Thursday with adherence to face coverings and distance requirements. These hours will be extended at the end of June following the anticipated lifting of remaining restrictions. City employees continue to work both remotely and in the office in accordance with public health guidance on workplaces and given employee childcare needs. The public can contact the City at (805) 473-4550 or cityhall@groverbeach.org or through specific City departments to ask questions or get more information about City services or projects. The first in-person Council meeting will be held on July 26 following the lifting of State restrictions with a continued ability for the public to call in with comments along with providing them in person at the meeting. Future Commission meetings will also be in person following this July 26th Council meeting.

Lastly, the City is resuming special events this year starting with the recent “Paint and Play with Mom” event in May following COVID protocols. The summer concert series will resume at Ramona Park on July 4 and consist of six concerts in July and August with applicable COVID protocols for special events. Future events this summer and fall will be announced at a later date.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

ALTERNATIVES

The Council has the following alternatives to consider:

1. Receive an update on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic; or
2. Provide alternative direction to staff.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The agenda was posted in accordance with the Brown Act.

Attachments

1. *Blueprint for a Safer Economy* List of Restrictions by Tier

Blueprint for a Safer Economy

Activity and Business Tiers

April 2, 2021

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Critical Infrastructure	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications
Gatherings * <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social, informal gatherings - No defined guest list required - No testing or vaccination required 	Current: Outdoor gatherings only with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 3 households Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 3 households 	Current: Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 3 households Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 25 people Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications (no food/drink except when following the standards in the guidance) 	Current: Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 3 households Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50 people Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications (no food/drink except when following the standards in the guidance) 	Current: Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 3 households Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 100 people Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor gatherings strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications (no food/drink except when following the standards in the guidance)

SECTORS	Tier 1 Widespread (Case Rate >7 and Test Positivity >8%)	Tier 2 Substantial (Case Rate 4-7 and Test Positivity 5-8%)	Tier 3 Moderate (Case Rate 1-3.9 and Test Positivity 2-4.9%)	Tier 4 Minimal (Case Rate <1 and Test Positivity <2%)
Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity in settings where capacity limits exist and up to 3 households or 10 people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity in settings where capacity limits exists or 25 people or whichever is fewer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity in settings where capacity limits exist or 50 people or whichever is fewer
Private Events ** (meetings/receptions/conferences) Required mitigation measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purchased tickets or defined guest list - Seating chart/Assigned seating - Testing and vaccination can increase capacity - No intermingling of multiple private events 	Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum 25 people • If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 100 	Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 50 people • If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 200 Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 100 people 	Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 100 people • If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 300 Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 150 people 	Effective April 15, 2021 Outdoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 200 people • If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 400 Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination: Max 200 people

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Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Indoor Seated Live Events and Performances **	Closed	<p>Effective April 15, 2021:</p> <p>All venues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect Weekly worker testing program All tickets delivered digital, advanced purchase only Pre-designated eating area (no eating/drinking allowed in seats) – 6 feet of distance. Suites 25% capacity, max three households. <p>Venues: 0-1,500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum 10% or 100 people 25% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination 	<p>Effective April 15, 2021</p> <p>All venues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect Weekly worker testing program All tickets delivered digital, advanced purchase only Pre-designated eating area (no eating/drinking allowed in seats) – 6 feet of distance. Suites 25% capacity, max three households. <p>Venues: 0-1,500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum 15% or 200 people 35% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination 	<p>Effective April 15, 2021</p> <p>All venues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect Weekly worker testing program All tickets delivered digital, advanced purchase only Pre-designated eating area (no eating/drinking allowed in seats) – 6 feet of distance. Suites 25% capacity, max three households. <p>Venues: 0-1,500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum 25% or 300 people 50% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination

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Post 2 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 4-10	CR 1-3.9	CR <1
Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
		Venues: 1,501 and above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination 	Venues: 1,501 and above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10% capacity or 2000, whatever is fewer; with modifications, and no eating/drinking 35% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination 	Venues: 1,501 and above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10% capacity or 2000, whatever is fewer; with modifications, and no eating/drinking 50% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination
Limited Services	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications
Outdoor Playgrounds & Outdoor Recreational Facilities	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications
Hair Salons & Barbershops	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications
All Retail (including critical infrastructure, except standalone grocers)	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications

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Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Shopping Centers (Malls, Destination Centers, Swap Meets)	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 25% capacity • Closed common areas • Closed food courts 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50% capacity • Closed common areas • Reduced capacity food courts (see restaurants) 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed common areas • Reduced capacity food courts (see restaurants) 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced capacity food courts (see restaurants)
Personal Care Services	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications
Museums, Zoos, and Aquariums	Outdoor only with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor activities max 25% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor activities max 50% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications
Places of Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor encouraged • Indoor strongly discouraged, allowed with modifications • Max 25% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 25% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50% capacity
Movie Theaters	Outdoor only with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50% capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 50% capacity

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Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Hotels and Lodging	Open with modifications	Open with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> +Fitness centers (+10%) 	Open with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> +Fitness centers (+25%) +Indoor pools 	Open with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> +Fitness Centers (50%) +Spa facilities etc.
Gyms and Fitness Centers	Outdoor only with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 10% capacity +Climbing walls 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity +Indoor pools 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity +Saunas +Steam rooms
Restaurants	Outdoor only with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity
Wineries, Breweries and Distilleries	Outdoor only with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reservations 90-minute time limit Seating/tables only Limited hours (service for on-site consumption closed by 8 pm) 	Outdoor only with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reservations 90-minute time limit Seating/tables only Limited hours (service for on-site consumption closed by 8 pm) 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity indoors, or 100 people, whichever is fewer 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity or 200 people indoors, whichever is fewer

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Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Bars (where no meal provided; follow restaurant guidance where meal is provided)	Closed	Closed	Open outdoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity indoors, or 100 people, whichever is fewer
Family Entertainment Centers ***	Outdoor only with modifications	Outdoor only with modifications	Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity 50% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination With modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% masking except for food and beverage service Food/beverage consumption must be restricted to designated areas separated from activity area Service of alcohol without meals must follow bar guidance (outdoor only) 	Indoor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity 75% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination With modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% masking except for food and beverage service Food/beverage consumption must be restricted to designated areas separated from activity area

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Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Cardrooms, Satellite Wagering	Outdoor only with modifications	Outdoor only with modifications	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 25% capacity 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 50% capacity
Offices	Remote	Remote	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage telework 	Open indoors with modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage telework
Outdoor Live Events with Assigned Seats and Controlled Mixing (e.g., sports and live performances)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 people or fewer Regional visitors (120 miles) Advanced reservations only No concessions or concourse sales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 20%, includes suites with 25% occupancy per suite and suites no more than 3 households Weekly worker testing program In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect Advanced reservations only Primarily in-seat concessions (no concourse sales) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 33%, includes suites with 25% occupancy per suite Weekly worker testing program In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect Primarily in-seat concessions (no concourse sales) Max 67% if all guests are tested or show proof of full vaccination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max 67%, includes suites with 25% occupancy per suite In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect Primarily in-seat concessions (no concourse sales)

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Post 4 million doses administered in first Healthy Places Index quartile	CR >10	CR 6-10	CR 2-5.9	CR <2
Amusement Parks/ Fairs ****	Closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 15% • Small Groups - Max 10 people or 3 household groups with no intergroup mixing • Indoor capacity max 15% with time restrictions • No indoor dining • Weekly worker testing program • In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect • Online ticket purchases only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 25% • Indoor capacity max 25% with time restrictions • Weekly worker testing program • With other modifications • In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 35% • Indoor capacity max 25% with time restrictions • Weekly worker testing program • With other modifications • In-state visitors only, check for current CDPH Travel Advisory in effect
Overnight Sleepaway Camps *****	Closed	Effective June 1, 2021: Open with modifications	Effective June 1, 2021: Open with modifications	Effective June 1, 2021: Open with modifications

Updated on April 2, 2021:

*Updated Gatherings effective April 15, 2021

**Added private events and indoor seated live events and performances effective April 15, 2021

***Updated Family Entertainment Centers

****Added Fairs to Amusement Parks

Updated on March 11, 2021:

*****Regardless of trigger being met, these activities (overnight sleepaway camps) cannot begin any sooner than June 1, 2021.