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**San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors Receive COVID-19 Updates
*County to Submit Attestation Case to the State this Week for Additional Reopenings***

STOCKTON – The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors met today to discuss and receive updates on the COVID-19 pandemic in San Joaquin County and provide direction to staff and approve actions.

Updates on COVID-19 Pandemic in San Joaquin County

- The Board of Supervisors gave County Counsel approval to revise a resolution that would allow the County and the City Councils of Escalon, Lathrop, Lodi, Manteca, Ripon and Tracy to jointly petition the Governor to allow counties, under the direction and with the approval of the Public Health Officer, to craft and implement local directives necessary to allow individuals, businesses, houses of worship, and schools to resume activities in a manner that does not threaten public health. San Joaquin County Counsel, Mark Myles said that the joint resolution makes the argument to the State that the citizens of San Joaquin County have acted responsibly to flatten the curve and should be allowed to set the pace for reopening the local economy. The revised resolution will be sent to local cities for adoption and then sent to the State for consideration.
- Dr. Maggie Park, San Joaquin County Public Health Officer reported to the Board that the County is very close to meeting all of the metrics required by the State including testing capacity; hospital capacity; protection of essential workers; protecting vulnerable populations and epidemiology stability. The Public Health Department is securing personnel to conduct tracing activities in order to complete all State required metrics and they are preparing to submit their attestation to the State this week. If the governor should approve the attestation request, Dr. Park is requesting that the remaining activities in Stage Two be resumed immediately. Based upon the Governor’s order, this will add dine-in restaurants (both indoor and outdoor), retail stores, such as shopping malls and swap meets and schools with modifications.

“I want to caution all San Joaquin County residents that as we move into this second recovery phase and some normal activities return, it is imperative that everyone understands the elements of the State Order and recognizes that the State order applies to them,” Dr. Park said.

Dr. Park said the following State-mandated orders still apply to all California residents:

- People should stay at home except to attend to participate in approved activities.
- Residents can leave their homes to engage with businesses and activities allowed by the State.
- Businesses and sectors of the economy that open are required to follow State guidance.
- To prevent further spread of COVID-19:

- Everyone must continue to observe social distancing protocols, minimize their time outside their homes, and wash their hands frequently.
- All Californians should not travel significant distances and should stay close to their homes.

The following sectors, establishments, or activities **are not permitted** to operate in California at this time:

- Personal services such as hair and nail salons, tattoo parlors, gyms and fitness studios
 - Hospitality services, such as bars, wineries, tasting rooms, lounges and nightclubs
 - Entertainment venues, such as movie theaters, gaming, gambling, and arcade venues, and pro sports, indoor museums and gallery spaces, zoos, and libraries
 - Community centers, public pools, playgrounds, and picnic areas
 - Religious services (except for drive-in like services) and cultural ceremonies
 - Festivals/Concert venues
 - Live audience sports
 - Theme parks
 - Hotels/lodging for leisure and tourism
- The Board approved a resolution to reopen County departments/offices previously closed to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic and to provide County Administrator Nino with the authority to reopen other County facilities once the facilities have the necessary safety measures in place.
 - Greg Diederich, Director of Health Care Services, reported to the Board that the Agency has had preliminary discussions with a non-profit organization that has developed a smart phone app to help support contact tracing and exposure notification for individuals who may have been exposed to a person who tested positive for COVID-19. The app leverages both Bluetooth and GPS technology to support contact tracing, the proximity, and the duration of the potential contact. Mr. Diederich will report back to the Board as discussions move forward. The app would be provided free County residents who choose to opt into the service and is currently being used in several large U.S. cities.

Kathy Miller, Chair of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors, responded to the presentations by stating, “testing and tracing are two of the key metrics in getting the County reopened again and they’re two things that residents can help accomplish. ”It’s more important than ever to get tested for COVID-19 and help us continue to meet our testing metric. It’s free, it’s quick and it makes all the difference in getting our economy, our everyday activities and our lives back on track.”

- Director Marcia Cunningham also noted that there is a specific email account for residents and businesses to email questions regarding reopening status at: SJReadyfeedback@sjgov.org
- The Board of Supervisors also received a 2019-2020 winter shelter report by Kristen Birtwhistle from United Way of San Joaquin County, Tori Verber Salazar, San Joaquin County District Attorney and Phyllis Grupe from Community Partnership for Families. The plan, which was developed by the County Winter Shelter Emergency Subcommittee, focuses on providing winter shelter for up to 100 unsheltered homeless men in San Joaquin County at existing low barrier shelters that have minimal expectations or requirements of people seeking shelter. Working with leaders and an array of organizations and agencies in the County like Gospel Center Rescue Mission and Stockton Shelter for the Homeless, the Winter Shelter Subcommittee worked to effectively expand shelter beds, food, hygiene, and case management services to some of San Joaquin County’s most vulnerable individuals during the winter of 2019-2020. Birtwhistle noted that this work was accomplished during the COVID-19 pandemic and while COVID-19 puts many people at risk for infection and loss of life, the homeless with underlying health issues and lack of shelter and health care, are some of the most vulnerable to

COVID-19. Tori Verber-Salazar, said that while there are no known cases of COVID-19 among homeless residents in the County, she believes that the Committee's outreach and education efforts compounded with ongoing COVID-19 testing of the homeless have helped to limit the number of COVID-19 positive cases.

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