

MEMORANDUM

Office of the City Manager



DATE: January 9, 2022
TO: Mayor and Council
THROUGH: Steve McHarris, City Manager *Steve McHarris*
FROM: Ashwini Kantak, Assistant City Manager *Ashwini Kantak*
SUBJECT: Novel Coronavirus/COVID-19 Update #44

The health of our employees, residents, and businesses remains the highest priority for the City of Milpitas.

Overview:

The City of Milpitas continues to implement its response to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus and the COVID-19 disease in Santa Clara County, in collaboration with the Santa Clara County Department of Public Health.

As the lead agency on public health, the County is regularly updating its guidance, which is available in five different languages and can be viewed [here](#). The County also has a [data dashboard](#) that is updated with all the latest information. The City continues to work closely with the County to ensure the safety and security of our community.

Key Updates

Federal

CDC Expands Booster Shot Eligibility and Strengthens Recommendations for 12-15 Year Olds

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention updated its recommendations for the Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine booster on January 5. CDC now recommends that adolescents aged 12 to 15 years old should receive a booster shot 5 months after their initial Pfizer-BioNTech vaccination series. The CDC also recommended that moderately or severely immuno-compromised 5- to 11-year-olds receive an additional primary dose 28 days after their second shot. At this time, only the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is authorized and recommended for adolescents aged 12-15.

State

California Extends its Indoor Mask Mandate until February

California [announced](#) it is extending its statewide indoor mask mandate until at least **February 15** due to the rise in COVID-19 cases driven by the fast-spreading Omicron variant. Currently, the state requires mask-wearing for everyone regardless of vaccination status in all indoor spaces, such as bars, restaurants, and retail stores. Many counties across California have their own indoor mandates, so the new statewide order primarily affects the counties that don't.

California Department of Public Health Guidance on Isolation and Quarantine

The California Department of Public Health recently updated [guidance on isolation and quarantine timeframes](#) to align with the guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC).

County

Public Health Order for Workers in Certain Higher-Risk Settings

On December 28, 2021, the County of Santa Clara Public Health Officer issued a [health order](#) requiring up-to-date COVID-19 vaccination for workers in certain higher-risk settings in light of the rapid surge in cases due to the Omicron variant. The new order builds on recent changes in the State Health Officer's vaccination requirements by mandating up-to-date vaccination by workers in certain healthcare and long-term care settings. Under the new local health order, by January 24, 2022, workers must be up-to-date on their vaccination (i.e., both fully vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19 if eligible for a booster) in higher-risk settings.

Isolation and Quarantine Support Program

As of January 3, Santa Clara County has aligned its isolation and quarantine guidance with the California Department of Public Health. The County COVID-19 Support Team provides resources to County residents who test positive for COVID-19 or are identified as contacts to a positive case to enable them to isolate or quarantine safely. For more information, please visit the [Isolation and Quarantine Support Program](#) site.

COVID-19 Vaccine and Testing Support Services

Vaccines are free, and no insurance or proof of immigration status is required. Please note that **capacity and wait times may vary**. Anyone age five or older is eligible. Additional clinic dates and locations are added frequently, check www.sccfreevax.org for the most up-to-date information.

City of Milpitas

The City is closely monitoring regulatory guidance and remains focused on ensuring the safety of the public and City employees. Below are the latest updates on City operations, which will take effect immediately and are recommended to remain in place until the end of January.

- **City Hall will be closed to the public until further notice**, some City facilities such as the Police lobby and the Senior Center, for lunch distribution, will remain open. The Office of Emergency Services continues to operate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at a full activation level.
- **Police Department Public Lobby:** The Milpitas Police Department lobby is open during business hours, 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday excluding weekends and city holidays. Supplemental safety measures are in place to ensure the safety of our staff and visitors. Community members can contact the non-emergency number (408-586-2400) for any further questions.
- **Public Meetings:** To ensure public safety, City Council meetings will be 100% virtual until the end of January 2022. This approach will allow people to continue attending via video conference. The public may also livestream the meeting on the City's [Website](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube channel](#). City Commissions, Subcommittees, Task Force meetings will continue to be held virtually.

- **City Employees:** The City will have employees work remotely or in person on essential services and other City functions until the end of January 2022. City staff has developed a self-check protocol that enables the safety of all employees. The protocols apply to all employees who are regularly coming to work to perform an essential service and may interact with the community or with other employees. The self-check protocols are based on guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, State and County.
- **Permit Center and Inspection Services:** The Permit Center located at City Hall will be closed for in-person services. City Staff will continue to provide permit and plan review services via email, website information, telephone, and tele or web conferencing. For detailed City service descriptions, refer to the latest [Permit Center and Inspection Services information flyer](#).
- **Recreation and Community Services:** All indoor community programs, recreation classes and private/public gatherings are cancelled or postponed. The Senior Center will continue to offer “to-go” lunches, as a continuation of the Senior Nutrition Lunch Program and limited childcare services will be offered. Staff will also continue to support testing and vaccination sites.
- **Other City Services:** Water, sewer, stormwater, and traffic signal operation services continue to operate at normal levels. Staff also continues to provide maintenance services for facilities, fleet, parks, enhanced cleaning for some City facilities, emergency services for trees and streets, and Underground Service Alert services for construction projects that are allowed under the County order. Staff continues to work with Milpitas Sanitation to ensure adequate staffing is available for solid waste collection in the City. Public Works staff are also working to ensure compliance with Local, State, and Federal regulations for all public works services. Meter reading staff will continue to respond to water service calls and maintain the City’s meter reading schedule.
- **Volunteers:** The City’s Milpitas Volunteer Program (MVP) continues to recruit volunteers for various community support efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. Community members looking to register as volunteer and receive regular monthly updates on local volunteer needs can [visit our volunteer page](#).

Public Information

The City will continue to update its [COVID-19 webpage](#) that has been established specifically for information about coronavirus. We will also be providing regular public updates through our social media accounts on Facebook, Nextdoor, and Twitter.

Booster Clinics

Booster shots are available, through both appointments and drop-in availability, at many pharmacies, clinics, and mass vaccination locations throughout the County. Everyone 12 and older who is five months out from their second Pfizer vaccine, six months out from their Moderna vaccine, or two months out from their Johnson & Johnson vaccine, is eligible for a COVID-19 booster shot. This is particularly urgent and critical for persons aged 50 and older, and those with significant underlying health conditions. To find a booster shot appointment or drop-in booster location, please go to [sccfreevax.org](#).

COVID-19 Testing at the Milpitas Community Center and Milpitas Sports Center

Due to current conditions, the County and City of Milpitas have partnered to provide COVID testing by appointment at two sites: Milpitas Community Center (457 E. Calaveras Blvd.) and Milpitas Sports Center (1325 E. Calaveras Blvd.). Testing at the Milpitas Community Center is bi-weekly (twice a week) on Mondays and Thursdays from 10am – 6:00pm. Testing at the Milpitas Sports Center is bi-monthly (twice a month) on every 1st and 3rd Friday from 9:30am – 4pm. Staff continues to work on adding additional testing opportunities in Milpitas.

Book your appointment by visiting:

<https://milpitas.info/CommunityCenterTest>

<https://milpitas.info/SportsCenterTest>