



## City of Milpitas

455 E. Calaveras Blvd. Milpitas, CA 95035  
Phone: 408-586-3000

## Milpitas USD

1331 E. Calaveras Blvd. Milpitas, CA 95035  
Phone: 408-635-2600

### **Milpitas Unified School District and the City of Milpitas Continue to Offer Community Assistance Programs in Response to Covid-19**

Milpitas, CA – May 23, 2020 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On May 18, Governor Newsom announced new criteria for counties to move further into stage 2 on the State's resilience roadmap. Updates to the criteria include:

- Hospitalization rates that don't increase more than 5% over seven (7) days;
- Fewer than twenty-five (25) COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents over the last 14 days;
- Fifteen (15) contact tracers per 100,000 residents; and
- A positivity rate of less than 8%.

Also on May 18, the County announced significant progress has been made on COVID-19 indicators and released an [updated public health order](#) which went into effect on Friday, May 22. The new health order will be in effect until it is rescinded or updated.

The new order allows retail establishments to offer storefront or curbside pick-up. Manufacturing, warehousing, and logistical operations supporting retail are also allowed to resume. Retail stores must comply with several additional operating conditions. The County's updated order also includes use of a "COVID-19 PREPARED" sign and a [Social Distancing Protocol](#) Visitor Information Sheet that business must post prominently. The City of Milpitas is communicating with businesses about these changes and has created an [FAQ for business owners](#) and operators.

The order also allows for additional outdoor activities, including car parades, outdoor museums, and opening of some historical sites and publicly accessible gardens. The County's existing restrictions on travel, gatherings, and social distancing remain in place.

Santa Clara County has more than 30 free testing sites across the county. Visit the [County website](#) for information on who should get tested and how people can get tested, including those who do not have health insurance.

### **Volunteers for Contact Tracing and Social Bridging Project**

Milpitas Office of Emergency Services (OES) staff are working on two volunteer programs to assist with mitigating the impacts of the Coronavirus. The Social Bridging Project is a CalOES program to outreach isolated individuals in vulnerable populations to ensure their needs are being met. Seven Milpitas Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members have volunteered to be a part of a State of California call bank system that connects volunteers with these populations to provide them with information on housing support, food, medical needs, or just to “lend an ear”. Individuals looking to volunteer may contact Toni Charlop at (408) 586-2801 or [tcharlop@ci.milpitas.ca.gov](mailto:tcharlop@ci.milpitas.ca.gov).

The second volunteer program will assist County’s efforts to recruit volunteer contact tracers to slow the spread of COVID-19. Volunteers will assist with interviewing cases, calling people who may have come into contact with an individual known to have contracted COVID-19, and identifying resources needed to ensure compliance in isolation and quarantine. Volunteer commitments are unpaid, requiring 24 or more hours per week for a minimum of six months to a year. Individuals looking to volunteer can visit the [County website](#).

### **Free Online Learning with Coursera**

As COVID-19 impacts our community with uncertainty and unemployment, MUSD formed a partnership with online learning pioneer Coursera to provide free courses for local residents who lost their jobs due to the pandemic. Coursera’s Workforce Recovery Initiative offers 3,800 courses and 400 specializations at no cost. Enrollment in Coursera’s courses is open through September 30, 2020, for individuals who are unemployed or underemployed. Newly-enrolled learners will have through December 31, 2020, to complete their courses. Please take a moment to complete this brief [questionnaire](#) to get started today.

### **SV Clean Energy Credits**

Silicon Valley Clean Energy is providing electric bill credits to both residents and small businesses impacted by the pandemic. Residents who are part of the CARE and FERA programs will automatically receive a \$100 credit on an upcoming bill. The CARE program is a monthly electricity discount of 20% or more. FERA is a monthly electricity discount of 18% for homes of three or more people.

Eligibility for both programs has been expanded because of the pandemic. People who are not already enrolled in either program can see if they qualify and apply [here](#).

Silicon Valley Clean Energy is also providing a \$250 bill credit for qualifying small businesses who have been impacted by COVID-19. Qualifying businesses will receive notification in the mail. More information about these credits, and about other programs in response to COVID-19, can be found [here](#).

### **Drive-Through Food Distribution Site**

On May 16, the City of Milpitas, Milpitas Unified School District, and Second Harvest Food Bank opened a new Drive-Through Food Distribution site at the Milpitas High School. The food distribution began at 9:00 a.m. and served its maximum distribution of groceries to 600 local families by 11:00 a.m. Each household received three boxes of food including frozen foods, dairy, grains and canned and fresh vegetables. Fifty volunteers from the Milpitas Food Pantry, local service clubs, and the general Milpitas population helped run the operation including registration, traffic assistance, and loading food. The site reached its maximum capacity of volunteers for the first Saturday within 24 hours of putting out a call [for assistance](#).

The site will continue to be open on the first and third Saturdays of each month through August 1. No income documentation or pre-registration is required to pick up food. People will be registered on site and asked to provide simple demographic information only.

Individuals can sign up to volunteer for the Drive-Through Food Distribution site using this [Signup Genius link](#). If you have questions, contact Rosana Cacao, Recreation Supervisor, at [rcacao@ci.milpitas.ca.gov](mailto:rcacao@ci.milpitas.ca.gov) or (408) 515-5762.

### **Summer Bridge Learning Program information**

Over the summer months, beginning June 15, the learning will continue for many of our students, as [MUSD EducatEveryWhere 2020 Summer Bridge Program](#) offers extended education opportunities that aim to provide continuity for our students to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally:

- Elementary Summer programs, held at Rose Elementary School, include Love4Literacy, Early Literacy Reading Program, Elevate Math, English Language Development, TWBI, and others. For more details on Elementary School Summer programs, click [here](#).
- Middle School Summer programs, held at Rancho Milpitas Middle School, included English Language Development, Math Bridge and Computer Science. For more details on Middle School Summer programs, click [here](#).
- High School Summer programs, two sessions held at Rancho Milpitas Middle School, are part of our summer credit recovery program for 9th through 12th grade students. For more details on High School Summer programs, click [here](#).

### **New Student Enrollment for 2020-21 school year**

Additionally, [new student enrollment](#) for the 2020-21 school year is opened for all grades, including for our Transitional Kindergarten and Dual Immersion programs, and we continue to accept applications for new students. To sign up your child, please visit our [Enrollment web page](#) and start the process today. The County Public Health office urges parents to complete immunizations for school enrollment now. Immunizations are needed to complete the MUSD process.

### **Video of Special COVID-19 MUSD Meeting**

On May 19, 2020, the Board of Education hosted a special COVID-19 meeting, with Superintendent Cheryl Jordan and MUSD Staff presenting a full report on the opportunities and costs related to the Shelter in Place circumstance. To view a video recording of the special virtual meeting, click [here](#). All MUSD board meetings can be watched live on Zoom. The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 26 at 7 p.m.

### **Teacher-Student connections during pandemic**

During this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, MUSD teachers, students, staff, and families continue to find creative ways to stay connected through photos, videos, parades, and other methods. Visit the collection on our [Teacher + Student Highlight web page](#).

### **Memorial Day Virtual Ceremony**

Join Milpitas' Virtual Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 25 at 9 a.m. on the [MilpitasRec YouTube Channel](#) to honor military service members who died in service. While the current shelter-in-place prevents in-person gatherings, community members are encouraged to partake in the meaningful traditions of previous ceremonies. Click the Memorial Day playlist to see the entire event on or after May 25.

### **Tolling on Bay Area Express Lanes to Resume**

Due to rising traffic volumes, the region's three Express Lane operators—Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and the Alameda County Transportation Commission—will resume weekday Express Lane tolling from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Beginning at 5 a.m. on Monday, June 1, the two Express Lane facilities in Santa Clara County (State Route 237 and a small portion of southbound I-680) will reinstate the variable-rate tolling policies that were temporarily suspended on March 20.

Milpitas Unified School District and the City of Milpitas will continue working together to protect the wellbeing of families, residents, and businesses throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

###

**Stay informed.** Information is changing frequently:

MUSD Coronavirus Webpage: [MUSD Coronavirus Webpage with Updates](#)

City of Milpitas Coronavirus Webpage: [City of Milpitas Coronavirus Updates](#)

Public Health Website: <http://sccphd.org/coronavirus>

Public Health Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sccpublichealth/>

Public Health Instagram: @scc\_publichealth

Public Health Twitter: @HealthySCC

### **Contact:**

Ashwini Kankar, Assistant City Manager

Email: [Akankar@ci.milpitas.ca.gov](mailto:Akankar@ci.milpitas.ca.gov)

Phone: 510-304-4968

Scott Forstner, Board Communication Specialist

Email: [Sforstner@musd.org](mailto:Sforstner@musd.org)

Phone: 408-896-1242