Dear Friends,

Santa Clara County is ramping up its COVID-19 testing thanks to public-private partnerships, and two of them focus on high-risk populations in specific communities.

The new testing sites are at James Lick High School in San Jose and Christopher High School in Gilroy. Today, another testing site also opened at the Police Activities League Stadium in San Jose.

The expansion of testing sites at the high schools, which will open on Wednesday, May 6, is part of 80 new testing sites statewide operated through a partnership with OptumServe, a health services business. OptumServe will test up to 132 people a day, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday by appointment only and focus on high-risk populations and those who don’t have health insurance.

To schedule an appointment, individuals can call 1-888-634-1123 or visit https://lhi.care/covidtesting.

The San Jose Police Activities League (PAL) Stadium testing site is located at 680 South 34th Street, San Jose. This community-based testing site is a partnership with the State, the County, the City of San Jose and Verily, a life science company that is part of the Alphabet family and Google’s sister company. Verily already operates a testing site at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds.

The East San Jose Mobile Testing Site at the PAL Stadium will operate from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, as a walk-up and drive-through site. Those 18 years or older can screen their symptoms and, if eligible, can use the Verily’s Baseline COVID-19 Program online screener and appointment scheduling system at www.projectbaseline.com/ covid19. Eligible persons must be willing to electronically sign the COVID-19 Public Health Authorization Form and Lab Consent. A photo identification is required.

Currently, this program is focusing on high-risk populations, including those who are age 60 or older, people with such health conditions as asthma, diabetes, or high blood pressure, individuals with symptoms and individuals working in high-risk settings, such as a healthcare facility, jail or prison and first responders, such as police officers, firefighters or paramedics. More information about Verily’s Project Baseline and Project Baseline COVID-19 testing can be found here.

Coronavirus Update

Today, the County of Santa Clara Public Health Department reported that there are 2,244 confirmed cases of Coronavirus and 117 deaths. There have been two new deaths and 13 new cases.
131 are in hospitals, and 422 of the cases are from long-term care facilities; 33,396 have been tested, and of those, roughly 7% tested positive.

The Public Health Coronavirus web page dashboards are updated daily.

**Multilingual Videos Explaining New Public Health Order**

The Public Health Department has created multilingual videos that explain the new Shelter in Place Order. There are individual videos in American Sign Language (ASL), Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. View and share the videos here.

**In the News**

Did you get a chance to see recent coverage of our work in your local news? Visit my website to learn more and read recent coverage.

I was recently able to join Rod Diridon Sr. and the San Jose Downtown Residents Association for a discussion on Silicon Valley’s Transportation Plan and Climate Change. A video recording of this virtual event is available here and can be accessed using the following password: 1q+^4wgt.

**Upcoming Town Halls Regarding COVID-19**

Please join me for my Radio Town Hall on Wednesday focused on answering your questions about COVID-19 and what the County is doing to help residents. Tune in to KCXU 92.7 FM Wednesday, May 6, from 6 to 7 p.m. Call in to the station at 408-634-8086 to get your questions answered on air. You can also text my office at 408-480-7833 in case you aren’t able to have your call connected to the radio station. We will be sure to answer every question that is texted to us.

This town hall will be in English with a recorded Spanish translation available upon request. The radio station gets coverage in the following neighborhoods: Alviso, North San Jose, Alum Rock, Little Portugal, Japantown, Downtown, Little Italy, The Alameda, Rose Garden, Santana Row, Willow Glen, Little Saigon, Evergreen, and Naglee.

For those who want to participate who do not live in these neighborhoods, you can access the live stream of this show as well as the recorded show later at this link https://kcxucovid19.org/.

You can also join me on VietBay TV for an Online Town Hall that will be streaming on multiple platforms. The live discussion can be streamed on Saturday May 9, from 3 to 4 p.m. at youtube.com/vietbaytvkaxt.
Local Restaurants Open During COVID-19

My Office has compiled and updated a list of local restaurants that are open for takeout and delivery that we have posted on our office website. It is important that we continue to support our local business during this difficult time. Please take a look here and, if you don't see your favorite restaurant on this list, please email tara.sreekrishnan@bos.sccgov.org with the name of the establishment for us to include.

Mandatory Face Coverings for VTA Riders

The updated Shelter in Place Order requires the use of face coverings for employees and customers while at essential and outdoor businesses as part of their official physical distancing protocols. This includes public transit. Anyone boarding VTA vehicles will have to comply by donning a face covering and continuing to adhere to physical distancing requirements to the greatest extent feasible. Bus and light rail operators will also be wearing face coverings while in their vehicles.

Update on Services for Seniors

The Senior Nutrition Program (SNP) has 38 out of the 40 congregate meals sites serving meals to go. Click here for a map of locations and hours of operation. My office has been helping locate other spaces willing to open up their site to become a Senior Nutrition Program site during COVID-19. Please email tara.sreekrishnan@bos.sccgov.org if you have or know of a site available.

SNP is concentrating on serving existing congregate clients, their Meals on Wheels clients, and those who were previously ineligible for their services but need support due the Shelter in Place Order. For more information visit the SNP website or call 408-755-7680.

SNP is partnering with the Santa Clara County Animal Shelter to offer free pet food delivery for SNP and Meals on Wheels clients that are having difficulty accessing pet food on their own. Refer to this flyer for more information on this temporary service.

The Adult Protective Services 24/7 hotline remains operational to accept reports of suspected or known abuse and neglect to Elders and Dependent Adults. Call the APS Hotline: 408-975-4900 or 1-800-414-2002.

Call in and ask your questions at 408-287-3587 or text my Office at 408-480-7833.
In Home Support Services continues to accept applications and respond to calls. IHSS can be reached at 408-792-1600.

The Institute of Aging’s 24-hour toll-free Friendship Line is an accredited crisis line for older adults and adults living with disabilities. Specialists at the Friendship Line offer the following services: emotional support, elder abuse reporting, well-being checks, grief support, active suicide prevention, and info and referrals for isolated individuals. They have expanded to offer support during the COVID-19 Shelter in Place Order. Call the Friendship Line at 800-971-0016.

**Baby Supplies Available**

A partnership between the City of San José, the County of Santa Clara, FIRST 5 Santa Clara County, the Santa Clara County Office of Education, local school districts, and a number of community-based organizations is providing free baby formula, diapers, and wipes to address the needs of families throughout the county. Interested residents must make an appointment to request these items in advance. Visit bit.ly/svstrong-diapers to locate the nearest Family Resource Center and schedule a pick-up date and time. Please note that distribution days and times will vary by location. Supplies are limited.

**Finding Childcare for Essential Workers**

California Governor Gavin Newsom announced a new online portal to help essential workers find childcare. Go to mychildcare.ca.gov for information on licensed childcare providers that are currently open including location, health and safety details, ages of children served, capacity, and hours of care. Users can enter their address to find local options.

Since the start of the pandemic, the state has allocated $100 million to increase the number of subsidized childcare slots to accommodate the children of essential workers and to cover the cost of gloves, face coverings and cleaning supplies for providers. The federal government will also provide the state $350 million for childcare provider assistance.

**Silicon Valley Bicycle Exchange**

Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition has teamed up with the Silicon Valley Bicycle Exchange (SVBE) to offer bikes to essential workers in need of transportation during Shelter in Place Order. The program accepts bikes that are ready-to-ride or need minor repairs and gives them to essential workers who need a bike but can’t afford one. Interested residents can sign up as a recipient, donor, or volunteer here.

**COVID-19 Resources for Autism Spectrum Disorders**

Shelter in Place Order is helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19, but it also means people are facing new challenges as their lives adjust to the changes. Caring for individuals and families affected by autism spectrum disorders might be especially difficult. Challenges include changes in schedules, disruptions to services, and learning to cope with uncertainty. At these links, Parents Helping Parents and Autism Society San Francisco Bay Area have put together comprehensive lists of events, resources, information, and more to help our community through this crisis.

**My Call for Increased PPE for In-Home Support Service Workers**

In order to keep both providers and their clients safe and healthy, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be provided to and prioritized for workers who provide in-home services to persons with disabilities either through In-Home Supportive Services. This is why I’ve requested that the California Department of Public Health update its guidance to specifically recognize the unique needs of persons with disabilities, older adults and their caregivers regardless of whether the person receiving services is showing possible signs of infection. The appropriate use of PPE as a preventative measure as well
as social distancing and other precautionary measures will have the greatest impact of slowing the spread of COVID-19 among those already at higher risk.

As always, you can reach my office at 408-299-5030, email me at dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org or visit the District 3 webpage at supervisorcortese.org.

Stay safe,

Dave Cortese
County Supervisor, Third District

Click here to manage your communication preferences