Dear Friends,

We are truly living in a time when we are bombarded with daily information about COVID-19, what we should do and what we shouldn’t do, especially with the new Shelter in Place Order that went into effect on Monday.

The Emergency Operations Center staff has updated the COVID-19 webpage to help you navigate through the new order in five languages – English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese and Tagalog. An updated Frequently Asked Questions contains information on allowable business activities, childcare, and construction activities, among other topics. There is also a section to guide you through information on Recreational Activities and Facilities.

Also available is a webpage dedicated to COVID-19 testing, providing information on who should be tested, where to find testing sites and testing expansion efforts. The webpage also explains the different types of COVID-19 tests to ensure that you have accurate information. Two new testing sites will open on Wednesday, May 6, at James Lick High School in San Jose and Christopher High School in Gilroy.

The Public Health Department has released an alert to all healthcare providers to provide guidance on testing, which significantly expand the categories of who should be tested. The Public Health Department is recommending that anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should be tested, anyone without symptoms who has been exposed to someone with a confirmed case and those without symptoms who work in such high-risk settings as hospitals or jails.

And finally, the Department of Environmental Health has released updated guidance for essential retail and grocery stores.

The Coronavirus Assistance Navigation hotline can also provide answers to your questions at 408-809-2124, and you can also call 2-1-1 for information. You can reach my office at 408-299-5030, email me at dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org and visit the District 3 website at supervisorcortese.org

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 in San Jose Spotlight and the Mercury News.

Coronavirus Update

As of Tuesday, May 5, there were 2,244 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the County and 117 total deaths. There are currently 131 people hospitalized in the County who are confirmed to have COVID-19. Worldwide, there are more than 3.5 million confirmed COVID-19 cases. Globally, about 255,000 people have died with COVID-19, including 70,272 in the United States. The Public Health dashboards are updated daily.

Giving Tuesday – Help our Healthcare Heroes

To date, our office has been able to raise over $13,000 for protective equipment for our county’s healthcare workers. In honor of “Giving Tuesday,” please consider supporting our frontline heroes fighting COVID-19. You can donate at this link: https://tinyurl.com/SCCHealthcareWorkers or text “GiveSCC” to 243725. You can also call my office at 408-299-5030 to make a donation.

Upcoming Town Halls

Please join me for my Radio Town Hall from 6 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6, to answer your questions about COVID-19 and what the County is doing to help residents. Tune in to KCXU 92.7 FM and 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.

The 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 and facebook.com/vietbaytv.

Call in and ask your questions at 408-287-3587 or text my Office at 408-480-7833.

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**Education Resources for Parents**

The Santa Clara County Office of Education has posted resources for parents, including at-home learning resources by grade level, guides for talking to children about COVID-19, and accessibility tools for students with special needs.

The County Office of Education’s Inclusion Collaborative has also expanded its resources to include a weekly Family Resource Chat forum where parents can learn and practice education techniques with an Inclusion Training Specialist, exchange information, and connect with each other. The information is also available for free, eight hours a day, at 408-453-6651. Languages include Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Korean.

**Emergency Funds for Freelancers and Creatives**

For many, slowing the spread of coronavirus means stopping work entirely—and losing months of income. Some self-employed people will not qualify for unemployment insurance, particularly artists who rely on informal, direct cash payments or practice without a business license. With those challenges in mind, KQED has rounded up a list of mutual aid funds that distribute emergency grants to artists, creative professionals and freelancers facing financial hardships.

Locally, SVCREATES has established the Arts Relief & Recovery fund of emergency support for the County’s arts organizations and artists who serve our community. Services range from youth and senior arts programming for our community’s most vulnerable
populations, to internationally known music festivals and, now, virtual music concerts, theatre, dance and visual arts programs.

With seed funding provided by the Castellano Family Foundation and a matching donation from the Morgan Family Foundation, the County of Santa Clara is challenging our community to match the County’s $650,000 investment in the arts. The goal is to raise $2 million to $3 million for over 150 artists and nearly 100 small and mid-size multidisciplinary and multicultural arts organizations. Consider donating here.

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