Dear Friends,

Starting today, May 8, some non-essential businesses in the state are allowed to open with strict guidelines and limited capacity because of a revised order from Governor Gavin Newsom.

But in Santa Clara County, Public Health seems to be taking a more tailored approach. Public Health is focusing on studying best practices and protocols for individual businesses and industries in determining a path forward. Earlier this week, this worked well with construction, landscapers, golf courses and some other businesses and activities. I believe over the next two to three weeks we will see more progress on developing safe protocols for additional jobs and activities.

Meanwhile, the Bay Area Health Officers, including our Public Health Officer Dr. Sara Cody, issued a reminder that the regional health order that took effect on May 4 will remain in effect for now. Stay tuned for further news on this.

As to the governor, he is allowing each region to move at its own pace. While this may cause some confusion, it is important that each area of the state be allowed to make decisions based on local data.

The other counties following the May 4 order are Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo and the City of Berkeley. Again, this order allowed construction projects to resume, such outdoor businesses as plant nurseries to reopen, childcare to become available for essential workers, and we started to enjoy some recreational activities, including golf and tennis. For all the details, please visit sccphd.org.

Public Health states that we still need to do what we have been doing since March 17 – stay at home as much as possible, practice social distancing and wear face coverings when going to places like grocery stores. We must also avoid non-essential travel, including car caravans or parades in neighborhoods.

The coronavirus pandemic is still well underway, and we expect outbreaks to continue, especially among vulnerable populations. Health officials will continue to watch the indicators and work with community and business leaders to accomplish careful, measured progress.

Thank you again for your cooperation, your compassion for others and your generosity in contributing to relief funds.

TOMORROW - Online Town Hall with Dave
Join me from 3 to 4 p.m. for an Online Town Hall streamed live on my Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/davecortesegov.

Ask questions through Facebook, call in and ask your questions at 408-287-3587, or text my Office at 408-480-7833. You do not need to have a Facebook account to stream this Town Hall.

Case Investigation and Contact Tracing

The County is rapidly scaling up case investigation and contact tracing. In order to move from sheltering in place, we must be able to identify cases quickly and break the chains of transmission through isolation, tracing contacts of cases and quarantine.

We will need about 700 contact tracers across Santa Clara County to do this important work. The County is reaching out to its partners and the community to identify individuals who might be able to volunteer to interview cases, call potential contacts, enter and manage data, and identify resources needed to ensure appropriate follow up and compliance with isolation and quarantine.

Tracers must be able to work 32 to 40 hours a week for six months to a year, have access to a computer and high-speed internet, excellent customer skills, strong written and verbal communication skills and the ability to work independently and remotely. For other details, please email ContactTracing@eoc.sccgov.org.

Mother’s Day During Coronavirus Pandemic

Traditionally on Mother’s Day, we visit our mothers, take them out to dinner, have picnics and barbecues and thank them for all they have done for us. We can still thank them this year, but remotely and with the use of technology.

The San Jose Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department and Happy Hollow Park & Zoo have a series of Mother’s Day cards that can be emailed, downloaded or printed from the Virtual Recreation Center. The site also contains additional resources to celebrate Mother’s Day on May 10 at home, including handmade gifts, crafts and family-friendly activities.

Happy Mother’s Day!

Community Resources for Youth, Families, and Individuals

The Santa Clara County Office of Public Affairs has created new website dedicated to community resources for youth, families and individuals impacted by COVID-19. Resources include food assistance, health services, financial help, legal assistance and
other support. Many services are available to all members of our community, regardless of ability to pay or immigration status.

**COVID-19 Update in Santa Clara County**

As of Friday, there are 2,290 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the County and 128 deaths. There are currently 111 people hospitalized in the County who are confirmed to have COVID-19. So far, 38,002 people in Santa Clara County have been tested, with a 6.03 percent positive rate. The dashboards are updated daily at the Public Health website.

**Update on Donations from our Office**

On May 7, my staff was able to donate hundreds of meals and protective face shields to Santa Clara County Valley Medical Center workers. It is our small way of thanking them for working the frontlines to save lives in our community. Thank you to VMC Foundation CEO Chris Wilder, Viet Tu Te Charity, Di Lac Temple and Viet Bay for joining us.

To support our frontline heroes fighting COVID-19, 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.

**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.

**Discussion with Congressman Ro Khanna and the Silicon Valley NAACP**
Join me and Congressman Ro Khanna from 6 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, for a virtual discussion with the San Jose/Silicon Valley NAACP regarding COVID-19 and its impact on the African American Community.

To access the virtual event, visit www.tinyurl.com/SVNAACP and enter the password 917325. We will be joined by special guests including our frontline healthcare heroes.

Essential Supply Distribution Schedule

FIRST 5 Santa Clara County, the City of San Jose, and School Districts have partnered to offer the distribution of essential supplies such as diapers, baby wipes and certified infant formula launched on the week of April 20 at various student meal distribution sites. At this link is an updated Essential Supplies Distribution schedule and location list for May 2020.

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