Dear Friends,

The Saturday Town Hall will return on August 15 with a very special guest. Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent of Schools, will join me to talk about education in the middle of a pandemic.

I was honored to work with Dr. Dewan and other educators on the Digital Divide Project, a partnership with the County, City of San Jose and the Santa Clara County Office of Education, to bring internet connections and devices to underserved neighborhoods.

“It is only through partnerships, collaborations and coordination that we can meet these challenges of connectivity as the school year begins,” Dr. Dewan said at a news conference that I also joined on Monday at the Franklin-McKinley School District Office.

As school campuses closed and districts moved to online learning, the Office of Education found that 15,000 students in districts throughout the County were left out because they didn’t have internet services or computers and tablets. Families also cannot connect to their doctors, search for jobs or receive important information about COVID-19 testing and prevention.

The Town Hall will be livestreamed from 3 to 4 p.m. on Facebook. You don’t need a Facebook account to stream this Town Hall, simply open an Internet browser and click on this link facebook.com/davecortesegov.

If you aren’t able to participate in Saturday’s Town Hall, call my office at 408-299-5030 or email me at dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org to get your questions answered.

Please join us!
County Coronavirus Dashboards Update

Because of a glitch in the State reporting system, data on the County Coronavirus Dashboards has been incomplete. The State is in the process of providing the backlogged data to counties, so large numbers of cases are expected to be reported over the next few days. Based on data the County received from the State over the weekend, the County reports 751 new cases as of Monday, August 10, which includes a combination of positive tests from as far back as July 8, but also from the last week.

Data indicating the number of people hospitalized and hospital capacity and cost tracking are compiled here in the County.

As of Monday, there were 177 COVID-19 patients in hospitals in Santa Clara County, and 53 are in ICU beds; 989 total beds are available, with 153 ICU beds available; 158 ventilators are in use of 780 available.

The Cost Tracking Dashboard shows that $174.9 million has been spent on COVID-19-related costs.

In the U.S., there are 5.1 million cases, with 165,331 deaths.

Globally, there are 20.1 million cases and 737,285 deaths.

Join the Women’s Equality 2020 Leadership Council Meeting

The Finance and Government Operations Committee and the Children, Seniors, and Families Committee, of which I chair and co-chair respectively, will be jointly hosting the Women’s Equality 2020 Leadership Council on Wednesday, August 12, 2020, at 10:30 a.m. through virtual teleconference. The Women’s Equality Leadership Council assists in the County’s efforts to commemorate and honor the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage, ensure a complete census count and broad electoral participation in 2020, and advance women’s equality. Meeting and materials are available online through this link. Members of the public will be able to participate in the meeting and online streaming is available as normal via the County Agenda Portal, YouTube Channel, and Live Audio Stream. To address the Committee in public comment, please review the Public Comment Instructions on the meeting agenda page, then access the teleconference at: https://sccgov-org.zoom.us/j/94054778689.

Town Hall on Community Mental Health Needs

The County of Santa Clara’s Behavioral Health Services Department is conducting community conversations to address immediate needs among stakeholders of mental health services, families and community partners. Whether you need support with connecting to services, accessing a network of peers or help finding COVID-19 testing sites, share your voice and share your needs.

The next virtual town hall meeting with the Vietnamese Community will be 6 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, August 12, by Zoom and Facebook Live. Click here to register.

You Can Request a Traffic Fine Reduction Online
Santa Clara County Superior Court now offers the California Judicial Council’s new MyCitations: Ability to Pay tool, an online option for people having difficulty paying fines related to traffic infractions.

This tool allows court users to look up traffic citations online, answer a series of questions and submit a request to the Court for a possible reduction in the amount owed based on their financial situation. Users can also request a payment plan, more time to pay or community service. This new option allows the public to make requests without the need to appear in Court. To request a fine reduction, visit mycitations.courts.ca.gov.

**Celebrating Women’s Suffrage with Three-Day Event**

The Santa Clara Office of Women’s Policy is hosting Soup! Salad! Suffrage!, a free three-part virtual event to mark the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment and the fight for women to have the right to vote.

The events will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. as follows:

- August 13 - Foundation and Education
- September 1 - Mobilization
- September 3 - Call to Action

Speakers include Michele Dauber; Frederick I. Richman, Professor of Law at Stanford Law School, and Sera Fernando, Senior Management Analyst for the Santa Clara Office of LGBTQ Affairs. You can join by Zoom by registering at https://sss2020.eventbrite.com.

**Public Safety Power Shutoffs – Be Prepared for the Unexpected**

As we are in peak wildfire season, it is important to also be aware that a PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff may occur at any time even if you do not live in a wildfire high risk area. High temperatures, extreme dryness and record-high winds have created conditions in our state where any spark at the wrong time and place can lead to a major wildfire.

To better prepare for an PSPS event, PG&E will notify its customers and non-customers who have signed up to receive alerts two days before power is turned off. Make sure to have enough supplies that will last a whole week when you receive this alert. Learn more about PSPS events at http://bit.ly/PSPSFAQ.

**Pop-up Testing Locations Open This Week**

The pop-up testing program operated by Santa Clara Valley Medical Center continues to provide free diagnostic COVID-19 testing around the County. The County has started a wrist-band system so people can avoid long lines. The supply of wristbands depends on the number of available tests and are only available as supplies last. The County advises those interested in a test at a pop-up site to go earlier in the day rather than later to pick up a wristband. When the wristbands run out, people will be directed to other testing locations nearby. Residents can find a testing location across the County at sccfreetest.org or by calling 2-1-1.

Here are new pop-up sites open at various times through Tuesday, August 11, through Saturday, August 15.

- **South County Annex (formerly Del Buono Elementary):** 9300 Wren Avenue, Gilroy, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday, August 11 through Friday, August 14.
- **Overfelt High School Gymnasium:** 1835 Cunningham Avenue, San Jose, 1 to 6 p.m., Tuesday, August 11 through Friday, August 14, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 15.

Beginning this week, SCVMC will provide appointment-based testing on a consistently scheduled, rotating basis to try to reach each of the cities at least once a month. This team can handle 600 appointments a day. These are walk-up (not drive-through) sites and appointments are required. Click here to schedule an appointment. These are the sites opening this week:
Morgan Hill: City Council Chamber Building, 17555 Peak Ave., Morgan Hill, Tuesday, August 11.
Santa Clara: Central Library, 2635 Homestead Road, Santa Clara, Wednesday, August 12.
Los Altos: Los Altos Youth Center, 1 N. San Antonio Road, Los Altos, Thursday, August 13.
Palo Alto: Palo Alto Art Center Auditorium, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto, Friday, August 14.

D3 Website Hosts COVID-19 Resources and Updates

My website hosts a dedicated section, updated regularly, that is focused on COVID-19. Here, you can view all of our previous newsletters, recordings of our town halls, and learn about resources and recommendations around the current public health emergency. We hope you, your family and friends find this information useful during this time.

D3 COVID-19 Informational Flyer

My staff and I have been working hard to supply the public with as many resources and as much knowledge as possible. These resources are vital to many, but reaching everyone who may need them is difficult. Please partner with me in getting the word out by sharing our COVID-19 Informational Flyer with your neighbors, family and friends. Together, we can ensure that every family has access to the help they need to stay healthy and safe during this pandemic.

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