Dear Friends,

On Tuesday, August 11, the Board of Supervisors approved an urgency ordinance that provides tools for the County to enforce mandates in the Health Orders issued to stop the spread of coronavirus.

Under the ordinance, the Public Health Officer can designate enforcement officers, which can include sworn peace officers, but also other county employees. Administrative fines will be between $25 and $500 for individuals and $250 to $5,000 for businesses. There is also a 72-hour grace period to allow businesses to correct the violation before fines are imposed.

I supported this ordinance not to punish those who are not paying attention to the guidelines but to educate them with how important these rules are to the health of our community and the reopening of our economy. We also needed a tool to respond to the many complaints the County has received from residents concerned about guidelines not being followed, such as outdoor restaurant staff not wearing masks or tables being placed too close together.

The ordinance will also help the County enforce the mandate of hospitals and health systems to provide COVID-19 testing services to their patients. The Board approved granting healthcare facilities a window of opportunity to work with our County Administration on collaborative Memorandum of Understanding agreements that would allow them to achieve and maintain compliance.

A Community and Business Engagement Branch of the Emergency Operations Center will send out teams to:

- Initiate robust community and business outreach and engagement through coordination with community-based organizations to educate businesses and the community on Public Health Orders
- Monitor and assist voluntary compliance with health orders after receiving reports of violations
- Refer violations impacting public health, safety and welfare to the County Counsel’s Office and the District Attorney’s Office “when efforts at voluntary compliance prove ineffective.”

I am very proud of and grateful to residents and business owners of Santa Clara County who have been following the public health guidelines, sometimes at great sacrifice, to keep COVID-19 from being widely transmitted. I hope that the new enforcement tool will help bring everyone on board.

To read the report on the ordinance click here. To watch a video of the meeting and hear the discussion on Item #9, click here.
Saturday Town Hall with County Superintendent of Schools

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. Dr. Dewan will answer your questions about school reopening, online learning and waivers for elementary schools to allow in-person classes.

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.

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!

Updates from D3

Helping Seniors Access Services Online

I am happy to announce that the Board of Supervisors moved forward with my initiative to take fiscally responsible action to close the digital divide for older adults in Santa Clara County. Thank you to the many advocates who spoke in support of this item and are putting a spotlight on this critical issue. We approved creating a digital working group with the Age Friendly Cities Collaborative and Seniors Agenda as well as assessing the feasibility of a pilot Digital Inclusion Project focusing on low income seniors. Read further about the many more actions the County is taking here.

Juneteenth as a Countywide Holiday

Thank you to those who presented the hundreds of public comments we received regarding declaring Juneteenth as a countywide holiday. This week, the Board of Supervisors approved my request to move forward with declaring Juneteenth, the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States, a countywide holiday in Santa Clara County. While slavery was abolished 157 years ago, a true national civil rights reconstruction was never concluded. This and other efforts toward overcoming slavery’s legacy by ending the violence and injustice against people of color are critical actions now and should not be further postponed. I want to acknowledge and thank the organizations across Santa Clara County that worked with me to bring this issue to the board, especially the African American Community Service Agency, which has hosted Juneteenth for the past 39 years.

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

As of Wednesday, there were 166 COVID-19 patients in hospitals in Santa Clara county, a decrease of 11 since Monday, and 45 in ICU beds, a decrease of eight; 931 beds are available, and 150 ICU beds are available; 179 ventilators are in use of 764 available.

The Cost Tracking Dashboard shows that $177.4 million has been spent on COVID-19-related costs.

In the U.S., there are 5.2 million cases, with 168,310 deaths.

Globally, there are 20.6 million cases and 749,421 deaths.

**Pop-up Testing Locations Open in August**

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 through Saturday, August 15.

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

SCVMC is providing appointment-based testing on a consistently scheduled, rotating basis to try to reach each of the cities in the County 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 open the remainder of this week and next:

- **Palo Alto:** Palo Alto Art Center Auditorium, 1313 Newell Road, Friday, August 14.
- **Los Gatos:** Adult Recreation Center, 208 East Main Street, Los Gatos, Monday August 17.
- **Mountain View:** Center for Performing Arts, 500 Castro Street, Tuesday, August 18.
- **Cupertino:** Senior Center, 21251 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Wednesday, August 19.
- **Campbell:** Orchard City Banquet Hall, 1 West Campbell Avenue. Thursday, August 20.
- **Milpitas:** Sports Center, 1325 E Calaveras Boulevard, Friday, August 21.

**In the News**

Did you get a chance to see recent coverage of our work in your local news and media outlets? Visit my website to learn more and read recent coverage. Also, read my Letter to the Editor with Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mary Ann Dewan regarding our plan to close the digital divide for families across our County.
San Jose Spotlight - [Santa Clara County takes steps to connect older adults to technology](https://www.sanjosespotlight.com/santa-clara-county-tech/)
San Jose Spotlight - [Santa Clara County pledges another $7.1 million to get students online](https://www.sanjosespotlight.com/santa-clara-county-pledges/)

**Registrar of Voters Looking for Election Workers**

The County Registrar of Voters is hiring workers for the November 3 election, and especially needs bilingual workers to help voters at the 100 Vote Centers throughout the County. For more information, click [here](https://www.sanjose.gov/boards/67) or call 408-918-9169.

As in the March 3 Primary Election:

- Every registered voter will receive a Vote by Mail ballot starting 29 days before Election Day.
- Voters can vote at any of the Vote Centers in Santa Clara County.
- Approximately 100 Vote Centers will be open for 4 days, including Election Day.
- Vote Centers will offer more space, additional services and new enhanced voting equipment.

Click [here](https://www.sanjose.gov/boards/67) to visit the Registrar of Voters home page.

**Applicants Sought for Civil Grand Jury**

The Santa Clara County Superior Court is seeking applicants to serve on the 2021 Civil Grand Jury. The Civil Grand Jury system is part of the California Constitution and plays an important civic watchdog function, bringing accountability to local government agencies. It is vital that the grand jury is diverse and representative of our community.

Residents who have lived in the county for one year, are United States citizens, and are at least 18 years of age may apply for service. The Court is seeking applicants of all backgrounds who are willing to make the commitment of a one-year term, beginning on January 4, 2020. Grand jury service typically requires approximately 25 hours per week.

More information about the Civil Grand Jury and an application can be found [here](https://www.sanjose.gov/courts/civil-grand-jury). The deadline to apply is September 25, 2020.

**More Time to Fill Out Your Census Form**

The deadline to fill out the U.S. Census 2020 form is September 30. Please don’t miss this important date if you haven’t yet filled out a form. Anyone who lives in the U.S., regardless of citizenship status, needs to be counted.

Getting the 2020 Census count right is critical—it will shape political representation, public policy and funding, private sector investments, and determine whose voice is heard at every level of our democracy.

You should have received a form in the mail a few months ago. You can also fill out the Census form online, or call 844-330-2020. Census takers are also going door to door to collect information. Visit [sccgov.org/census](https://sccgov.org/census) for all the information.

**D3 Website Hosts COVID-19 Resources and Updates**

My [website](https://www.sanjose.gov/boards/67) 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,

[Signature]

Dave Cortese
County Supervisor, Third District

Click [here](http://example.com) to manage your communication preferences