Dear Friends,

The 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness lays out a roadmap for the goal I have been working toward achieving for Santa Clara County since becoming a Supervisor: No one in our County has to live outside.

The new plan builds on efforts of the past five years guided by the 2015-2020 Community Plan to End Homelessness that resulted in 14,000 people being housed, the number of supportive housing units and shelter beds doubled and 1,000 households a year being served by the homeless prevention system.

Yet, as we know, the number of unhoused people continues to grow. For every homeless family housed in this County, two to three more are experiencing homelessness for the first time fueled by the income gap in Silicon Valley and the lack of affordable housing. The coronavirus pandemic has intensified the need for housing and sheltering the 10,000 people who have nowhere to live except outside and are vulnerable to disease transmission.

The new plan, calls on the entire community to be part of the solution with a strategy that:

- Addresses the root causes of homelessness through system and policy change.
- Expands homelessness prevention and housing programs to meet the need.
- Improves quality of life for unsheltered individuals and creates healthy neighborhoods for all.

The plan’s goals are, by 2025, to:

- House 20,000 people through the supportive housing system.
- Expand the Homelessness Prevention System and other early interventions to serve 2,500 people a year.
- Achieve a 30 percent reduction in annual inflow of people becoming homeless.
- Double temporary housing and shelter capacity to reduce the number of people sleeping outside.

You can read the plan or a two-page summary and listen to a presentation and discussion at the August 25 Board of Supervisors meeting.

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. Click here to read the state guidelines and here to read a Mercury News article on waivers.

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/davecorteseegov.

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

As of Thursday, there were 169 COVID-19 patients in hospitals in Santa Clara County, an increase of three since Wednesday, and 48 in ICU beds, an increase of three; 165 ventilators are in use of 775 available; 888 beds are available in County hospitals, and 148 ICU beds are available.

The Cost Tracking Dashboard shows that $177.6 million has been spent on COVID-19-related costs.

In the U.S., there are 5.3 million cases, with 169,164 deaths.

Globally, there are 20.9 million cases and 759,844 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, 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.

**County to Install Touch-Free Pedestrian Crosswalk Signals**

The County is adding touch free, pedestrian activation devices at crosswalks located at 25 expressway intersections with heavy pedestrian use, including six on Capitol Expressway in San Jose, to reduce exposure to COVID-19. Santa Clara County is the first in the nation to use this technology.

Pedestrians can wave a hand in front of the device and cross the street without having to physically push a button. The first devices have been installed at the intersection of South Bascom Avenue and Renova Drive, in front of Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. About 200 devices will be installed at expressway intersections this fall at 25 expressways. Additional devices will be purchased and installed at other expressway signalized intersections when funding becomes available.

Residents may request the devices for other expressway intersections or unincorporated county areas by sending a service request on the County website at [www.countyroads.org](http://www.countyroads.org).

For more details and the locations, visit my website at [supervisorcortese.org](http://supervisorcortese.org).

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

My [website](http://) 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

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