

SAFER AT HOME ORDER FOR CONTROL OF COVID-19

Temporary Prohibition of All Events and Gatherings
Closure of Non-Essential Businesses and Areas
Revised Order Issued: March 21, 2020

Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a crime punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code § 120295; Los Angeles County Code § 11.02.080.)

SUMMARY OF THE ORDER: This County of Los Angeles Health Officer Order (Order) amends and supersedes the Orders of the County of Los Angeles Health Officer (Health Officer) issued on March 16, and 19, 2020. This Revised Order is issued to comply with Executive Order N-33-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom, wherein the State Public Health Officer ordered all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors. Further, this Order extends the closure of certain businesses required by the Health Officer's March 16, 2020 Order to April 19, 2020.

Due to the continued rapid spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the need to protect the most vulnerable members of our community, this Order prohibits all indoor and outdoor public and private gatherings and events. The Order specifically requires all businesses to cease in-person operations and close to the public, unless the business is defined as an Essential Business by this Order. This Order is effective immediately within the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction, defined as all unincorporated areas and cities within the County of Los Angeles, with the exception of the cities of Long Beach and Pasadena, on March 21, 2020 and continuing through April 19, 2020, subject to the terms and conditions set forth below.

For all Essential Businesses, the Health Officer orders those businesses to take the following infection control precautions: (1) practice social distancing by requiring patrons, visitors, and employees to be separated by six (6) feet, to the extent feasible; (2) provide access to hand washing facilities with soap and water or hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol; (3) post a sign in a conspicuous place at the public entry to the venue instructing members of the public to not enter if they are experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness, including fever or cough; and (4) adhere to communicable disease control recommendations provided by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health.

This Order does not prohibit any individual or family from engaging in outdoor activities, as an individual, or family, such as hiking, walking, biking, or shopping at Essential Businesses, including grocery stores and restaurants offering delivery, drive thru or carry out service, so long as all persons practice social distancing to the extent practicable.

Further, this Health Officer Order requires all indoor malls and shopping centers, all swap meets and flea markets, all indoor and outdoor playgrounds and all non-essential businesses to close. This Order does not supersede any stricter limitation imposed by a local public entity.

The County Health Officer will continue to monitor the rate of COVID-19 disease spread, the severity of the resulting illnesses and deaths caused, California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations, and the effect of this Order. If needed, this Order may be extended, expanded, or otherwise modified to protect the public's health.

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, AND 120175, THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HEALTH OFFICER ORDERS:

1. Effective immediately on March 21, 2020 and continuing through April 19, 2020, all public and private group events and gatherings are prohibited anywhere within the Los Angeles County Public Health Jurisdiction. All persons are to remain in their homes or at their place of residence, except to travel to and from Essential Businesses, to work at or provide service to a Healthcare Operation or Essential Infrastructure, to engage in Essential Activities, or to participate in an individual or family outdoor activity, while practicing social distancing.
2. For Essential Businesses not prohibited by this Order, the owner, manager, or operator of the Essential Business shall:
 - (a) Enforce social distancing measures by requiring members of the public to be separated by at least six (6) feet from others, to the extent feasible. Persons who are family members or household contacts, may stand or move together, but must be separated from others by a distance of at least six (6) feet.
 - (b) Provide access to hand washing facilities with soap and water or to hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol.
 - (c) Post a sign in a conspicuous place at all public entries that instructs members of the public to not enter if they are experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness, including fever or cough.
 - (d) Adhere to communicable disease control recommendations provided by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, including guidance for cleaning and disinfecting the site. See guidance posted at www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/.
3. The Health Officer orders the immediate closure of the following types of commercial properties and businesses:
 - (a) Non-Essential Retail Businesses.
 - (b) Indoor Malls and Indoor Shopping Centers, including all stores and vendors therein regardless whether they are an Essential or Non-Essential Retail Business. As an exception, permanent Essential Businesses that are part of an Indoor Mall or Indoor Shopping Center, but that are accessible by the public from the exterior of the Indoor Mall or Shopping Center may remain open. The interior of the Indoor Mall or Indoor Shopping Center shall remain closed to the public.
 - (c) This Order does not require closure of Essential Businesses in Outdoor Malls and Shopping Centers. However, owners and operators of Outdoor Malls and Shopping Centers shall enforce social distancing measures among their visitors as provided in Section 2 (a)-(d).
 - (d) Indoor and Outdoor Playgrounds for Children, except for those located within childcare centers.
 - (e) Indoor and Outdoor Flea Markets and Swap Meets.
 - (f) Additional types of commercial properties and businesses: (i) Bars and Nightclubs that do not serve food; (ii) Gyms and fitness centers; (iii) Movie Theaters, Drive-In Theaters, Live Performance Theaters, Concert Halls, Arenas and Stadiums; (iv) Bowling Alleys and Arcades; and (v) Wineries, Breweries and Tap Rooms that provide tastings.

4. This Order does not supersede any stricter limitation imposed by a local public entity within the Los Angeles County Public Health Jurisdiction.
5. This Order does not apply to employees of government agencies working in the course and scope of their public service employment.

REASONS FOR THE ORDER

6. This Order is based upon scientific evidence and best practices, as currently known and available, to protect members of the public from avoidable risk of serious illness and death resulting from the spread of COVID-19, as well as to protect the healthcare system from a surge of cases into emergency rooms and hospitals. The Order supports the CDC's efforts to institute more stringent and necessary social distancing measures to reduce community transmission of COVID-19.
7. Existing community transmission of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County presents a substantial and significant risk of harm to the health of residents. Currently, there is no vaccine available to protect against and no specific treatment for COVID-19. As of March 20, 2020, there have been at least 351 cases of COVID-19 and 4 deaths reported in Los Angeles County. There remains a strong likelihood of a significant and increasing number of cases of community transmission.
8. The virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread easily through person-to-person contact. This risk of transmission is increased when people are in close proximity. All gatherings pose an increased risk for community transmission of COVID-19 and thus, are a substantial risk to public health. As such, places where people gather, such as Indoor Malls and Shopping Centers, Swap Meets and Flea Markets, Children's Playgrounds, and Non-Essential Retail Businesses, provide significant opportunities for patrons or groups of patrons to have close contact with each other. Characteristics of these gatherings that are likely to exacerbate the spread of COVID-19 include, without limitation: (a) that these gatherings and businesses will attract people from throughout the county when there is widespread COVID-19 community transmission, (b) the prolonged time period during which many people are in close proximity at these locations, (c) the difficulty in tracing and controlling additional exposures when large numbers of people visit these places, and (d) visitors may be unknowingly infected with COVID-19 and may not follow adequate hygienic and social distancing practices.
9. In the absence of a specific immunization or treatment for COVID-19, social distancing is essential to preventing this disease. Increasing social distancing and prohibiting events and gatherings is intended to slow transmission of COVID-19. Accordingly, to reduce the community transmission of COVID-19, the Health Officer has ordered the temporary prohibition of all events and gatherings, the closure of Indoor Malls and Shopping Centers as defined in Section 11, and the closure of certain businesses, as described in Section 12.

DEFINITIONS

10. For purposes of this Order, Essential Activities, are defined as travel for purposes of: (a) visiting a health or veterinary care professional; (b) obtaining medical supplies or medication; (c) obtaining grocery items for one's household or for delivery to others; (d) legally mandated governmental purposes, such as access to court, social and administrative services; (e) providing care for minors, the elderly, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons; and (f) complying with an order of law enforcement or court.

11. For purposes of this Order, Indoor Malls and Shopping Centers are defined as:
A building with seven (7) or more "sales or retail establishments" with adjoining indoor space.
For purposes of this Order, Outdoor Malls and Shopping Centers are defined as:
A series of buildings on a common site, either under common ownership or common control or developed together, with seven (7) or more "sales or retail establishments."
12. Non-Essential Retail Businesses are establishments that provide goods or services to the public that do not come within the definition of Essential Businesses set forth in Paragraph 13 of this Order.
13. For purposes of this Order, Essential Businesses are defined as the following:
- (a) Grocery stores, certified farmers' markets, farm and produce stands, supermarkets, food banks, convenience stores, warehouse stores, and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of canned food, dry goods, fresh fruit and vegetables, pet supply, water, fresh meats, fish, and poultry, and any other household consumer products (such as cleaning or personal care products). This includes stores that sell groceries and sell other non-grocery products, and products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences;
 - (b) Food processors, confectioners, food packagers, food testing labs that are not open to the public, and food cultivation, including farming, livestock, and fishing;
 - (c) Organizations and Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals (including gang prevention and intervention, domestic violence, and homeless service agencies);
 - (d) Newspapers, television, radio, magazine, podcast and journalism activities;
 - (e) Gas stations, auto-supply, mobile auto repair operations, auto repair shops (including, without limitation, auto repair shops adjacent to or otherwise in connection with a retail or used auto dealership), and bicycle repair shops and related facilities;
 - (f) Banks, credit unions, financial institutions and insurance companies;
 - (g) Hardware stores, nurseries; building supply stores;
 - (h) Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, custodial/janitorial workers, handyman services, funeral home workers and morticians, moving services, HVAC installers, carpenters, vegetation services, tree maintenance, landscapers, gardeners, property managers, private security personnel and other service providers who provide services to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation to properties and other Essential Businesses;
 - (i) Businesses providing mailing and shipping services, including post office boxes;
 - (j) Educational institutions (including public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities) for purposes of facilitating distance learning, providing meals for pick-up, or performing essential functions, provided that social distancing is practiced;
 - (k) Laundromats, dry cleaners, laundry service providers;
 - (l) Restaurants and other food facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for delivery, drive thru or carry out. Indoor and outdoor table dining is not permitted. Cafeterias, commissaries, and restaurants located within hospitals, nursing homes, or other licensed health care facilities may provide dine-in service, as long as social distancing is practiced pursuant to Section 2(a)-(d).



- (m) Businesses that supply office or computer products needed by people who work from home;
 - (n) Businesses that supply other Essential Businesses with the support or supplies necessary to operate;
 - (o) Businesses that ship, truck, provide logistical support or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences, Essential Businesses, Healthcare Operations, and Essential Infrastructure;
 - (p) Airlines, taxis, ride sharing services and other private transportation providers providing transportation services necessary for activities of daily living and other purposes expressly authorized in this Order;
 - (q) Businesses that manufacture parts and provide service for Essential Infrastructure;
 - (r) Home-based care for seniors, adults, disabled persons, or children;
 - (s) Residential facilities and shelters for homeless residents, disabled persons, seniors, adults, children and animals;
 - (t) Professional services, such as legal, payroll or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities, and the permitting, inspection, construction, transfer and recording of ownership of housing, including residential and commercial real estate and anything incidental thereto;
 - (u) Military/Defense Contractors/FFRDC (Federally Funded Research and Development Centers). For purposes of this Order, essential personnel may leave their residence to provide any service or perform any work deemed essential for national security including, but not limited to defense, intelligence and aerospace development and manufacturing for the Department of Defense, the Intelligence Community, and NASA and other federal government, and or United States Government departments and agencies. Essential personnel include prime, sub-primes, and supplier contractor employees, at both the prime contract level and any supplier levels at any tier, working on federal United States Government contracts such as contracts rated under the Defense Priorities and Allocations System (DPAS) and contracts for national intelligence and national security requirements;
 - (v) Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this Order to work as permitted. To the extent possible, childcare facilities must operate under the following mandatory conditions: (1) Childcare must be carried out in stable groups of 12 or fewer ("stable" means the same twelve (12) or fewer children are in the same group each day); (2) Children shall not change from one group to another; (3) If more than one (1) group of children is cared for at once facility, each group shall be in a separate room. Groups shall not mix with each other; (4) Childcare providers shall remain solely with one group of children.
 - (w) Hotels, motels, shared rental units and similar facilities.
 - (x) Construction Workers who support the construction, operation, inspection, and maintenance of construction sites and construction projects (including housing construction).
14. This Order is intended to deter the spread of COVID-19 by preventing people from being in unnecessary close contact. Certain activities are essential to the functioning of the County and the well-being of our residents and must continue.
15. This Order does not prohibit persons from leaving their residences to perform any work necessary or provide any services to or obtain services from the following Essential Infrastructure and Healthcare Operations:

- (a) Healthcare Operations (hospitals, clinics, laboratories, dentists, pharmacies, physical therapists and chiropractors, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other licensed healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, home healthcare service providers, mental or behavioral health providers, alcohol and drug treatment providers, cannabis dispensaries with a medicinal cannabis license and all other required state and local licenses, medical or scientific research companies, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services, manufacturers, distributors and servicers of medical devices, diagnostics, and equipment, veterinary care, and all healthcare provided to animals. This exemption shall be construed to avoid any impact to the delivery of healthcare, broadly defined. Healthcare Operations does not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar exercise or training facilities.
- (b) Essential Infrastructure, including but not limited to, public health, public works construction, construction of commercial, office and institutional buildings, construction of housing, airport operations, port operations, food supply, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil extraction and refining, road and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, flood control and watershed protection, internet and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services), and manufacturing and distribution companies deemed essential as part of the Essential Infrastructure supply chain, provided that they carry out those services or that work in compliance with social distancing requirements, to the extent practicable.

ADDITIONAL TERMS

- 16. This Order does not, in any way, restrict: (a) first responder access to the site(s) named in this Order during an emergency or (b) local, state or federal officers, investigators, or medical or law enforcement personnel from carrying out their lawful duties at the site(s) named in this Order.
- 17. The entities subject to this Order that are not required to close may otherwise remain open for business and perform essential functions and operations during the duration of this Order.
- 18. The County shall promptly provide copies of this Order by: (a) posting it on the Los Angeles Department of Public Health's website (www.publichealth.lacounty.gov), (b) posting it at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration located at 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, (c) providing it to any member of the public requesting a copy, (d) issuing a press release to publicize the Order throughout the county, and (e) by serving via email on large facilities known to the County's Health Officer that are likely to be subject to this Order (but service via email is not required for compliance).
 - (a) The owner, manager, or operator of any facility that is likely to be impacted by this Order is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Order onsite and to provide a copy to any member of the public requesting a copy.
 - (b) Because guidance may change, the owner, manager, or operator of any facility that is subject to this Order is ordered to consult the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's website (www.publichealth.lacounty.gov) daily to identify any modifications to the Order and is required to comply with any updates until the Order is terminated.
- 19. If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Order or any application of it to any person, structure, gathering, or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Order.



20. This Order incorporates by reference, the March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State of Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom and the March 4, 2020 declarations of a local and public health emergency issued by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Los Angeles County Health Officer, respectively, and as they may be supplemented.
21. To protect the public's health, the Health Officer may take additional action(s) for failure to comply with this Order. Violation of this Order is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment, fine or both under California Health and Section Code Section 120295 *et seq.* Further, pursuant to Sections 26602 and 41601 of the California Government Code and Section 101029 of the California Health and Safety Code, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and the Chiefs of Police in all cities located in the Los Angeles County Public Health Jurisdiction ensure compliance with and enforcement of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Muntu Davis, MD, MPH
Health Officer, County of Los Angeles

Date: March 21, 2020