

**REOPENING SAFER AT WORK AND IN THE COMMUNITY  
FOR CONTROL OF COVID-19  
BLUEPRINT FOR A SAFER ECONOMY—TIER 1  
Revised Order Issued: October 23, 2020**

**Recent Update**

**10/23/2020** – Updated to do the following:

- Permit batting cages, miniature golf and go cart racing to operate outside only. Arcades and other indoor family entertainment operations remain closed.
- Permit personal care establishments to offer services indoors with modifications.
- Clarify permitted food services at Indoor Malls and Shopping Centers.
- Increase the percentage of students with IEPs and ELs, and other high need students allowed at any one time on a K-12 campus from 10% to 25%.
- Permit schools to reopen TK-2<sup>nd</sup> Grades for classroom instruction only with a waiver application approved by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

**10/14/2020** —Updated to do the following:

- More closely align with the California Department of Public Health [Guidance for the Prevention of COVID-19 Transmission for Gatherings](#) issued on October 9, 2020.
- Allow private gatherings of persons from no more than 3 households, but only in compliance with the requirements set forth in paragraph 3(a). Further defines the terms “household” and “private gathering.” All other gatherings not covered by this Order or existing County reopening protocols remain prohibited.

**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 Revised County of Los Angeles Health Officer Order (Order) supersedes all prior Safer At Home orders (Prior Orders) issued by the County of Los Angeles Health Officer (Health Officer). This Order is issued to comply with State Executive Orders N-33-20 and N-60-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom, and the accompanying orders of the State Public Health Officer issued on March 19, May 7, July 13, July 17, 2020, and August 28, 2020.

This Order’s intent is to continue to ensure that County residents remain in their residences as much as practicable, to limit close contact with others outside their household in both indoor and outdoor spaces. All persons who can telework or work from home should continue to do so as much as possible during this pandemic. This Order allows persons to engage in all permitted activities, as defined by the Order, but requires that persons practice Social (Physical) Distancing, at all times while out in public and wear a cloth face covering over both the nose and mouth when in or likely to be in contact with others, to lower the risks of disease transmission through person-to-person contact for themselves and others.

This Order is issued to align the County of Los Angeles (County) with State Executive Orders and State Health Officer Orders. This Order will be revised in the future to reflect the State Executive Orders and State Public Health Officer Orders and guidance that progressively designate sectors, businesses, establishments, or activities that may reopen with certain modifications, based on health and safety needs and at a pace designed to

protect health and safety, and that may also progressively close specific activities and business sectors based on increases in daily reported COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and the testing positivity rates. Should local COVID-19 conditions warrant, the Health Officer may, after consultation with the Board of Supervisors, issue Orders that are more restrictive than those of the State Public Health Officer. **Changes from the previous Order are highlighted.**

This Order is effective within the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction, defined as all cities and unincorporated areas within the County of Los Angeles, with the exception of the cities of Long Beach and Pasadena that must follow their respective City Health Officer orders and guidance. This Order is effective immediately and will continue until further notice.

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

1. This Order supersedes the Health Officer's Prior Orders. This Order mainly aligns the County with both the Governor's July 13, 2020, announcement requiring the closure of specific activities and business sectors and the State's August 28, 2020 issuance of a Blueprint for a Safer Economy, which describes a tiered approach to relaxing and tightening restrictions on activities based upon specified criteria and as permitted by this Order based on County health conditions and circumstances. The Health Officer will continue to assess the phased reopening allowed by the State Public Health Officer and this Order on an ongoing basis and determine, after consultation with the Board of Supervisors, whether this Order needs to be modified if the public health risk associated with COVID-19 increases in the future.
2. This Order's intent is to continue to ensure that County residents remain in their residences as much as practicable, to limit close contact with others outside their household in both indoor and outdoor spaces. All persons who can telework or work from home should continue to do so as much as possible during this pandemic. Sustained Social (Physical) Distancing and infection control measures will continue slowing the spread of COVID-19 and diminishing its impact on the delivery of critical healthcare services. All provisions of this Order must be interpreted to effectuate that intent. Failure to comply with any of the Order's provisions constitutes an imminent threat and menace to public health, and a public nuisance, and is punishable by fine, imprisonment or both.
3. All persons living within the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction should remain in their residences whenever practicable.
  - a) Nothing in this Order prohibits persons living together as a single household in a household or living unit ("household") from engaging in permitted activities together. For purposes of this Order, and in relationship to private gatherings, a "household" shall not include institutional group living situations such as dormitories, fraternities, sororities, monasteries, convents, or residential care facilities, nor does it include such commercial group living arrangements as

boarding houses, hotels, or motels.<sup>1</sup> Private gatherings are defined as social situations that bring together people from different households at the same time in a single space or place. When people from different households mix, the risk of COVID-19 transmission increases. Private gatherings of people who are *not* part of a single household or living unit must comply with the following requirements:

- i. *Attendance.* 1) Private gatherings that include more than three households are prohibited. This includes everyone present, including hosts and guests. The smaller the number of people, the lower the risk. 2) Keep the up to 3 households that choose to privately gather or interact together constant or stable over time. Participating in multiple gatherings with different households and communities poses a higher risk of transmission and spread of COVID-19 if one or more attendees is/are discovered to be infected with the virus. 3) Persons from the households who do choose to privately gather together should discuss and agree upon the specific group rules for reducing the risk of exposure among the attendees at the private gathering before convening together. 4) The host household of the private gathering should collect names of all attendees and contact information in case contact tracing is needed later.
- ii. *Outdoors only.* 1) All private gatherings must be held outside; they are permitted in a public park or other outdoor space. Unlike indoor spaces, wind and air in outdoor spaces can help reduce the risk of spread of the virus from one person to another. Attendees may go inside to use restrooms as long as the restrooms are frequently sanitized. 2) Private gatherings may occur in outdoor spaces that are covered by umbrellas, canopies, awnings, roofs, and other shade structures provided that at least three sides of the space (or 75%) are open to the outdoors. 3) Multiple private gatherings of three households may not be jointly organized or coordinated to occur in the same public park or other outdoor space at the same time – this would constitute a private gathering exceeding the permitted size. 4) Mixing between unrelated private gatherings in the same public space or other outdoor space at the same time is not allowed.
- iii. *Keep it short.* Private gatherings should be limited to two hours or less in duration. The longer the duration, the risk of transmission increases.
- iv. *Physical distancing and hand hygiene.* 1) All attendees must follow the Social (Physical) Distancing Protocol requirements of Paragraph 19 of this Order. 2) The outdoor space must be large enough so that everyone at the private gathering can maintain at least a 6-foot physical distance from others (not including their own household) at all times. 3) A place

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<sup>1</sup> Los Angeles County Code, Title 22. §22.14.060 - F. Family definition. (Ord. 2019-0004 § 1, 2019.)  
[https://library.municode.com/ca/los\\_angeles\\_county/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeld=TIT22PLZO\\_DIV2DE\\_CH22.14DE\\_22.14.060F](https://library.municode.com/ca/los_angeles_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeld=TIT22PLZO_DIV2DE_CH22.14DE_22.14.060F)

- to wash hands or hand sanitizer must be available for participants to use. 4) Shared items may not be used during a private gathering. As much as possible, any food or beverages at outdoor gatherings must be in single-serve disposable containers. If providing single-serve containers is not possible, food and beverages must be served by an attendee who washes or sanitizes their hands frequently and wears a face covering over their nose and mouth. Self-serve items from communal containers may not be used.
- v. *Singing, Chanting, and Shouting at Outdoor Gatherings.* Singing, chanting, shouting, and physical exertion significantly increases the risk of COVID-19 transmission because these activities increase the release of respiratory droplets into the air. Because of this, singing, chanting, and shouting are strongly discouraged. If they occur and to reduce the spread of respiratory droplets, all attendees who are singing or chanting 1) must wear a face covering at all times while singing or chanting, including anyone who is leading a song or chant, and 2) must maintain at least 8-10 feet of physical distance from others. 3) Instrumental music is allowed as long as the musicians maintain at least 8-foot physical distancing. Musicians must be from only one of the three households. Playing of wind instruments (any instrument played by the mouth, such as a trumpet or clarinet) is strongly discouraged.
  - vi. Anyone who develops COVID-19 within 48 hours after attending a private gathering must notify the Department of Public Health at (833) 540-0473 and should notify the other attendees as soon as possible regarding the potential exposure.
- b) People leaving their residences must strictly comply with the Social (Physical) Distancing requirements stated in this Order and specified in guidance or protocols established by the County Department of Public Health. This Order, beginning June 19, 2020, requires all persons wear a cloth face covering over both the nose and mouth whenever they leave their place of residence and are or can be in contact with or walking near or past others who are non-household members in both public and private places, whether indoors or outdoors. This includes wearing a cloth face covering when patronizing a business. Wearing a cloth face covering reduces the risk of transmission to others from people who do not have symptoms and do not know they are infected. The use of face coverings is commonly referred to as “source control.”
  - c) Persons and businesses within the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction are required to follow the COVID-19 infection control protocols and guidance provided by the County Department of Public Health. In instances where the County has not provided a specific guidance or protocol, specific guidance or protocols established by the State Public Health Officer shall control.
    - i. In the event that an owner, manager, or operator of any business knows of three (3) or more cases of COVID-19 among their employees within a span of 14 days, the employer must report this outbreak to the Department of Public Health at (888) 397-3993 or (213) 240-7821.

- ii. In the event that an owner, manager, or operator of any business is informed that one or more employees of the business has tested positive for, or has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (case), the employer must have a protocol to require the case(s) to isolate themselves at home and require the immediate self-quarantine of all employees that had a workplace exposure to the case(s).
  - d) Pursuant to the State of California's action<sup>2</sup> and the United States District Court Central District of California's order,<sup>3</sup> jurisdictions within the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction are expected to comply with the provision of hotel and motel rooms for vulnerable people experiencing homelessness through Project Roomkey, which slows the spread of COVID-19 and retains capacity of the healthcare system.
4. All people residing within the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction who are age 65 or older and all people of any age who have active or unstable pre-existing health conditions, should remain in their residences as much as possible during the pandemic. People in these categories should leave their residences only when necessary to seek medical care, exercise or obtain food or other necessities. People in these categories should avoid any gatherings. The Health Officer strongly recommends that all employers offer telework or other accommodations to persons who are age 65 or older and all people of any age who have an active or unstable pre-existing health condition(s).
5. All government agencies working in the course and scope of their public service employment are Essential Government Functions.
- a) All government employees are essential, including but not limited to, health care providers and emergency responders including employees who serve in the following areas: law enforcement; emergency services and management; first responders; fire; search and rescue; juvenile detention; corrections; healthcare services and operations; public health; laboratory or medical testing; mental health; community health; public works; executive management employees serving in these fields; all employees assigned to serve in or support the foregoing fields; and all employees whose services are otherwise needed to assist in a declared emergency.
  - b) While all government employees are essential, the employees identified here, and others called to serve in their Disaster Service Worker capacity, must be available to serve the public or assist in response or continuity of operations efforts during this health crisis to the maximum extent allowed under the law.
  - c) 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,

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<sup>2</sup> Office of Governor Gavin Newsom, Action re: Project Roomkey, 4/3/2020, <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/04/03/at-newly-converted-motel-governor-newsom-launches-project-roomkey-a-first-in-the-nation-initiative-to-secure-hotel-motel-rooms-to-protect-homeless-individuals-from-covid-19/>; 2020-21 May Revision to the Governor's Budget, Project Roomkey, pg. 78-79

<sup>3</sup> Order re: Preliminary Injunction (Case No. LA CV 20-02291-DOC-KES), LA Alliance for Human Rights et al v. City of Los Angeles et al, States District Court Central District of California, 5/15/2020.

- investigators, or medical or law enforcement personnel from carrying out their lawful duties at the site(s) named in this Order.
- d) All persons who perform Essential Governmental Functions are categorically exempt from this Order while performing such governmental functions or services. Each governmental entity shall identify and designate appropriate employees, volunteers, or contractors to continue providing and carrying out any Essential Governmental Functions. All Essential Governmental Functions should be performed in compliance with Social (Physical) Distancing Protocol, to the extent possible.
6. This Order does not supersede any stricter limitation imposed by a local public entity within the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction.
  7. The Health Officer orders the closure of the following types of higher-risk businesses, recreational sites, commercial properties, and activities, where more frequent and prolonged person-to-person contacts are likely to occur:
    - a) Lounges and nightclubs;
    - b) Bars and craft distilleries that possess a valid low risk restaurant public health permit issued by the County of Los Angeles.
    - c) [Intentionally omitted];
    - d) Public entertainment venues: movie theaters, live performance theaters, concert venues, theme parks, and festivals;
    - e) Family entertainment centers **for indoor operations only and other prohibited activities under Appendix V**;
    - f) All restaurants, but only for indoor, in-person onsite dining until further notice;
    - g) Satellite wagering facilities, and racetrack onsite wagering facilities until further notice;
    - h) Indoor playgrounds;
    - i) Indoor portions and exhibits of museums, zoos and aquariums are closed to the public until further notice;
    - j) Hot tubs, steam rooms and saunas not located on a residential property;
    - k) All events and gatherings, unless specifically allowed by this Order.
  8. All Essential Businesses, unless specific modifications are required by this Order, may remain open to the public and conduct normal business operations, provided that they implement and maintain the Social (Physical) Distancing Protocol defined in Paragraph 20 and attached to this Order as **Appendix A**. An Essential Business' owner, manager, or operator must prepare and post a Social (Physical) Distancing Protocol for each facility or office located within the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction and must ensure that the Essential Business meets all other requirements of the Social (Physical) Distancing Protocol.

9. Lower-Risk Businesses are businesses that are not specified in Paragraph 7 of this Order, and not defined as an Essential Business in Paragraph 18 of this Order. There are five categories of Lower-Risk Businesses that may reopen under this Order: (1) retailers (“Lower-Risk Retail Businesses”), (2) manufacturing and logistics sector businesses that supply Lower-Risk Retail Businesses, (3) Non-Essential office-based businesses (although telework is strongly encouraged), (4) Indoor Malls and Shopping Centers, and (5) hair salons, barbershops, and nail salons. These five categories of Lower-Risk Businesses may reopen subject to the following conditions:
- a) For any Lower-Risk Retail Business that sells goods and services, the owner, manager, or operator must, for each facility located within the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the Reopening Protocols for Retail Establishments: Opening for In Person Shopping, attached to this Order as **Appendix B**.
  - b) For any non-retail Lower-Risk Business, that is a manufacturing and logistics sector business that supplies Lower-Risk Retail Businesses, the owner, manager, or operator must, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Reopening Protocol, applicable to the business type or location, attached to this Order as **Appendix C**.
  - c) For any Non-Essential office-based business, all indoor portions and operations must cease in-person operations until further notice. Non-essential office-based businesses whose operations require employees to work from an office worksite, and that this Order does not identify as an Essential Business, Healthcare Operation, or Essential Infrastructure, may operate via telework and for Minimum Basic Operations only. Essential Businesses, Healthcare Operations, or Essential Infrastructure whose operations require that employees operate from an office worksite, must require employees to telework to the extent feasible and any in-person operations must be in accordance with the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Reopening Protocol Office-Based Worksites, attached to this Order as **Appendix D**.
  - d) For Indoor Malls and Shopping Centers, defined as: A building with (7) or more sales or retail establishments with adjoining indoor space, beginning October, 7, 2020, the owner or operator of the Indoor Mall or Shopping Center, including indoor swap meets, may reopen at up to 25% of overall mall or shopping center capacity. Higher-risk businesses located within an Indoor Mall or Shopping Center must continue to comply with Paragraph 7 of this Order and remain closed until each of those types of establishments is allowed to resume modified or full operations. Food court **dining areas** and specified common areas located within an Indoor Mall or Shopping Center must remain closed to the public until further notice. Members of the public may not consume food or beverages inside the Indoor Mall or Shopping Center. All businesses located within an Indoor Mall or Shopping Center, and not subject to Paragraph 7 of this Order, must adhere to the applicable requirements of this Order. The owner or operator of the Indoor Mall or Shopping Center must, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Protocols for Shopping Center Operators, attached to this Order as **Appendix E**.

- 9.5. The State Public Health Officer has provided guidance for certain sectors, businesses and activities in Stage 3 of the California Pandemic Resilience Roadmap to conditionally reopen with workplace and operational modifications. The Health Officer, after considering local epidemiological data and after consultation with the Board of Supervisors, approves the reopening of the following specific sectors, businesses and activities subject to the following conditions:
- a) Music, film and television production. Operations for music, film and television production may resume on June 12, 2020. The owner, manager, or operator of music, film and television production must, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Reopening Protocol for Music, Film and Television Production, attached to this Order as **Appendix J**, as well as abide by applicable industry-generated protocols.
  - b) Day camps. Day camps may reopen on June 12, 2020. Day camp owners and operators must implement and post the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Reopening Protocol for Day Camps, attached to this Order as **Appendix K**.
  - c) Fitness facilities. Fitness facilities, including private gymnasiums, may be open for outdoor operations only. The indoor portions of Fitness facilities are closed to the public until further notice. The owner, manager, or operator of fitness facilities must, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Reopening Protocol for Gyms and Fitness Establishments, attached to this Order as **Appendix L**.
  - d) Outdoor portions of museums, galleries, botanical gardens, and outdoor facilities at zoos, aquariums, and other similar exhibition spaces (collectively, "Museums") may remain open to the public. The indoor portions of Museums are closed to the public until further notice. The owner, manager, or operator of Museums and exhibition spaces must, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Reopening Protocol for Museums, Galleries, Zoos, and Aquariums, attached to this Order as **Appendix M**.
  - e) Professional sports without audiences. Professional sports teams and franchises may restart operations and competitions without audiences on June 12, 2020. The owner, manager, or operator of professional sports teams and franchises must, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Protocol for Professional Sports Leagues and Facilities Opening for Training Sessions and Spectator-Free Events, attached to this Order as **Appendix N**, as well as abide by applicable industry-generate protocols.
  - f) Campgrounds, RV Parks and associated outdoor activities. Campgrounds and recreational vehicle parks may reopen on June 12, 2020. The owner, manager, or operator of campgrounds and RV Parks must, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Reopening Protocol for Campgrounds, RV parks and Cabin Rental Units, attached to this Order as **Appendix O**.



- g) Schools (K-12) and School Districts. The County Public Health Officer requires all public and private schools (K-12) and school districts within the County of Los Angeles to conduct distance learning only. Beginning September 14, 2020, K-12 schools may offer in-school services for a small, stable cohort of students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or English Learners (ELs) needing assessments and/or specialized in-school services, with priority given to students with disabilities. Other prioritized groups for in person support and services include students not participating in distance learning, students at risk of abuse or neglect, foster youth, and students experiencing homelessness. Permissible in-person specialized services that require cohorting of students, must limit the maximum stable cohort size to twelve (12) students and two (2) staff (not including aides assigned to children with special needs), and adhere to all provisions for safe opening of schools, as outlined in **Appendix T1: Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools**. Schools must limit the number of students with IEPs and ELs, and other prioritized students allowed at any one time on campus for essential assessments and/or specialized in-school services to **25%** or less of the total student body. **In addition, Schools may reopen TK-2<sup>nd</sup> Grades for classroom instruction with a waiver application approved by the County Department of Public Health.** Schools and School Districts that are permitted to reopen for prioritized individual and cohorted students (K-12) **or upon an approved waiver application** (TK-12) must follow the Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools and the Protocol for COVID-19 Exposure Management Plan in K-12 Schools, attached to this Order as **Appendices T1 & T2**.
- h) Personal Care Establishments. **Personal Care Establishments may reopen for indoor operations with required modifications. These establishments provide personal care that requires touching of a client's face, for example, facials, electrolysis and waxing. Personal Care Establishments also include hair salons, nail salons, barbershops,** esthetic, skin care, electrology, body art professionals, tattoo parlors, and piercing shops, **tanning salons** and massage therapy (in non-healthcare settings). The owner, manager or operator of a personal care establishment must, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Reopening Protocol for Personal Care Establishments, attached to this Order as **Appendix R**.
- i) Institutes of Higher Education. Colleges and universities in Los Angeles County will not be able to resume all in-person academic instruction, at this time. Institutions may continue to offer in person training and instruction for essential workforce for required activities that cannot be accomplished through virtual learning. All other academic instruction must continue to be done via distance-learning as specified in the County's Protocols for Institutes of Higher Education attached to this Order as **Appendix U**. Faculty and other staff may come to campus for the purpose of providing distance learning, and other activities related to the purposes above, as well as maintaining minimum basic operations. The institution must comply with all relevant portions of the County's Protocols for Institutes of Higher Education to maximize safety for all employees, also noted in Appendix U.

- j) Cardrooms. On October 5, 2020, Cardrooms may reopen for outdoor operations only. The indoor portions of cardrooms remain closed to the public until further notice. No food or beverages are permitted at or near the gaming tables or machines. The owner or operator of a cardroom must, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Reopening Protocol for Cardrooms attached to this Order as **Appendix Q**.
- k) Miniature Golf, Batting Cages, and Go Cart Racing. On October 23, 2020, Miniature Golf, Batting Cages, and Go Cart Racing may reopen for outdoor operations only. The indoor portions of these businesses remain closed to the public until further notice. Arcade and other amusement games may not be operated outside. Food and beverages may not be consumed during use of the miniature golf course, batting cages or go carts. The owner or operator of an establishment that offers miniature golf, batting cages, and/or go cart racing must, prior to reopening, prepare, implement and post the required Los Angeles Public Health Protocols for Miniature Golf, Batting Cages, and Go Cart Racing attached to this Order as **Appendix V**.

## **REASONS FOR THE ORDER**

10. This Order is based upon the following determinations: evidence of continued community transmission of COVID-19 within the County; continued uncertainty regarding the degree of undetected asymptomatic transmission; scientific evidence and best practices regarding the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically; evidence that a significant portion of the County population is at risk for serious health complications, including hospitalizations and death from COVID-19, due to age or pre-existing health conditions; and further evidence that other County residents, including younger and otherwise healthy people, are also at risk for serious negative health outcomes and for transmitting the virus to others. The Order's intent is to protect the public from the avoidable risk of serious illness and death resulting from the spread of COVID-19.
11. Existing community transmission of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County remains widespread and continues to present a substantial and significant risk of harm to residents' health. There is still no vaccine available yet to protect against COVID-19, and no treatment for it. As of October 22, 2020, there have been at least 294,065 cases of COVID-19 and 6,956 deaths reported in Los Angeles County. There remains a strong likelihood that increased interactions among members of the public will result in a significant and increasing number of cases of community transmission. Making the community transmission problem worse, some individuals who contract the virus causing COVID-19 have no symptoms or have only mild symptoms, and so are unaware that they carry the virus and are transmitting it to others. Further, evidence shows that the virus can, at times, survive for several hours on surfaces and can be indirectly transmitted between individuals. Because even people without symptoms can transmit the virus, and because evidence shows the infection is easily spread, preventing, limiting, and placing conditions on various types of gatherings and other

direct and indirect interpersonal interactions have been proven to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus.

12. Evidence suggests that until recently the restrictions and requirements imposed by Prior Orders slowed the rate of increase in community transmission and hospitalizations by limiting interactions among people, consistent with the efficacy of similar measures in other parts of the country and world. Unfortunately, the daily number of new cases, while not currently substantially increasing, is still high, and COVID-19 remains widespread in Los Angeles County. Moreover, because there is not yet a vaccine or ample therapeutic drugs, the public health emergency and attendant risks to the public's health by COVID-19 still predominate.
13. In line with the State Public Health Officer, the Health Officer is monitoring several key indicators (COVID-19 Indicators) within the County. Activities and business operations that are permitted must be conducted in accordance with the required Social (Physical) Distancing, reopening protocols, and other infection control protocols ordered by the Health Officer.
14. The Health Officer will continue monitoring COVID-19 Indicators to assess the impact of easing restrictions and re-opening sectors. Those Indicators include, but are not limited to:
  - a) The number of new cases, hospitalizations and deaths and the testing positivity rate.
  - b) The capacity of hospitals and the healthcare system in the County, including acute care beds, Intensive Care Unit beds, and ventilators to provide care for existing COVID-19 patients and other patients, and capacity to surge with an increase of COVID-19 cases.
  - c) The supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) available for hospital staff, nursing home staff and other healthcare providers and personnel who need PPE to safely respond to and treat COVID-19 patients and other patients.
  - d) The ability and capacity to quickly and accurately test persons to determine whether individuals are COVID-19 positive, especially those in vulnerable populations or high-risk settings or occupations, and to identify and assess outbreaks.
  - e) The ability to conduct case investigation and contact tracing for the volume of future cases and associated contacts, isolating confirmed cases and quarantining persons who have had contact with confirmed cases.

## **DEFINITIONS AND EXEMPTIONS**

15. The following activities are permitted under this Order:
  - a) Engaging in activities or performing tasks important to the health and safety of family or household members (including pets), such as, visiting a health or veterinary care professional, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a

- physician or child's pediatrician for routine care, such as, well-child visits and vaccinations;
- b) Obtaining necessary services and supplies for family or household members, or delivering the same, such as, obtaining grocery items or necessary supplies from Essential Businesses for one's household or for delivery to others;
  - c) Performing work for or accessing businesses that are open, or to carry out Minimum Basic Operations for businesses that are closed or operating remotely.
  - d) Obtaining or accessing services from Essential Governmental Functions, such as, accessing court, social and administrative services, or complying with an order of law enforcement or court;
  - e) Caring for minors, the elderly, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons;
  - f) Obtaining in-person behavioral health or substance use disorder support in therapeutic small group meetings, such as Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous, provided that the gathering is limited to 10 people or fewer and Social (Physical) Distancing is practiced.
  - g) Obtaining in-person faith-based counselling services where the service cannot reasonably be practiced remotely, provided that the gathering is limited to 10 people or fewer and Social (Physical) Distancing is practiced.
  - h) Attending in-person faith-based services, provided that the faith-based service is held outdoors. There is no maximum attendance for faith-based services that are held outdoors, provided that the attendees have enough space to observe strict Social (Physical) Distancing, including a minimum of six feet between attendees from different households, and are wearing cloth face coverings. Faith-based organizations holding in-person outdoor services, must follow the Department of Public Health Places of Worship Protocols, attached to this Order as **Appendix F**.
  - i) Engaging in outdoor recreation activity, in compliance with Social (Physical) Distancing requirements and wearing a face covering, subject to the following limitations:
    - i. Outdoor recreation activity at parks, trails, piers, and beaches, and other open spaces must comply with any access or use restrictions separately established by the Health Officer, government, or other entity that manages the area to reduce crowding and the risk of COVID-19 transmission.
    - ii. Use of shared outdoor facilities for recreational activities, including but not limited to golf courses, tennis and pickleball courts, children's playgrounds, shooting and archery ranges, equestrian centers, model airplane areas, community gardens, skate parks, and bike parks, must comply with any access or use restrictions separately established by the Health Officer, government, or other entity that manages the area to reduce crowding and the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

- iii. Local public entities may elect to temporarily close certain streets or areas to automobile traffic, to allow for increased space for persons to engage in recreational activity permitted by and in compliance with Social (Physical) Distancing requirements specified in this Order.
  - iv. Swimming pools and splash pads in any non-residential setting may reopen on June 12, 2020, with the owner, manager, or operator of the swimming pool or splash pad implementing and posting the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Protocol for Swimming Pools. All hot tubs, saunas, and steam rooms located on non-residential property remain closed.
  - v. For-hire fishing, guided fishing, or small-group chartered boat trips may resume operating on June 12, 2020, with the owner, manager, or operator of the charter business implementing the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Protocol for Chartered Boats.
  - j) Participating in a Vehicle-Based Parade. The host of the Vehicle-Based Parade must comply with all local ordinances, traffic control requirements, and state and local laws. Further, the host of Vehicle-Based Parades must comply with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Vehicle-Based Parade Protocol, attached to this Order as **Appendix G**.
  - k) Participating in an in-person protest as long as the protest is held outdoors. Outdoor protests are permitted without a limit on attendees. Persons participating in a protest must wear a cloth face covering and maintain physical distancing of six (6) feet between persons or groups of persons from different households at all times, as well as observe the Department of Public Health Protocol for Public Demonstrations.
16. Individuals may work for, train for, volunteer at, or obtain services at Healthcare Operations: hospitals, clinics, laboratories, dentists, optometrists, pharmacies, physical therapists, rehabilitation and physical wellness programs, 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, blood and blood product donation organizations, 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 other animal healthcare. This exemption shall be construed to avoid any impact to the delivery of healthcare, broadly defined.
17. Individuals may provide any service, train for, or perform any work necessary to the operation and maintenance of Essential Infrastructure, which is defined as, public health operations, public works construction, airport operations, port operations, food supply, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil extraction and refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection, removal and processing, flood control and watershed protection, cemeteries, mortuaries, crematoriums, and 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 providing these services, training for, or performing this work, individuals must comply with Social (Physical) Distancing requirements to the extent practicable.

18. For purposes of this Order, Essential Businesses are:

- 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 other non-grocery products, such as products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences. This does not include businesses that sell only prepackaged non-potentially hazardous food which is incidental to the primary retail business;
- 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, 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 news, radio, magazine, podcast and journalism activities, including taped, digitally recorded or online-streamed content of any sort that is produced by one or more members of a single household, within the household's residence and without the physical presence of any non-member of the household.
- 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 homes 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);

- k) Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers;
- l) Restaurants and other food facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for delivery, drive thru, carry out, and outdoor onsite table dining. Indoor dining is not permitted. Restaurants with a moderate risk or high risk restaurant permit issued by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health and other food facilities that provide in-person outdoor dining must follow the revised Department of Public Health Protocols for Restaurants, attached to this Order as **Appendix I**. Cafeterias, commissaries, and restaurants located within hospitals, nursing homes, or other licensed health care facilities may provide dine-in service, as long as Social (Physical) Distancing is practiced;
- 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) Non-manufacturing, transportation or distribution businesses that ship, truck, transport, or provide logistical support to deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences, Essential Businesses, Healthcare Operations, and Essential Infrastructure. This exemption shall not be used as a basis for engaging in sales to the general public from retail storefronts;
- 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 necessary 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, provided that appointments and other residential viewings must only occur virtually or, if a virtual viewing is not feasible, by appointment with no more than two visitors at a time residing within the same household or living unit and one individual showing the unit (except that in-person visits are not allowed when the occupant is still residing in the residence);
- u) Childcare facilities. All childcare facilities, including those operating at schools, must operate under the LAC DPH Childcare Guidance and the following conditions: (1) Childcare must be carried out in stable cohorted 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 group of children is cared for at one 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;

- v) Hotels, motels, shared rental units and similar facilities. Beginning June 12, 2020, these may reopen for tourism and individual travel, in adherence with the required Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Reopening Protocol for Hotels, Lodging and Short-Term Rentals, attached to this Order as **Appendix P**;
  - w) Construction, which includes the operation, inspection, and maintenance of construction sites and construction projects for construction of commercial, office and institutional buildings, residential and housing construction; and
  - x) Manufacturers and retailers of fabric or cloth that is made into personal protective equipment, such as, face coverings.
19. For purposes of this Order, "Social (Physical) Distancing" means: (1) Maintaining at least six (6) feet of physical distance from individuals who are not members of the same household; (2) Frequently washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or using hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol; (3) Wearing a cloth face covering when whenever an individual leaves their home or place of residence, and when an individual is or can be in contact with or walking by or past others who are non-household members in both public and private places, whether indoors or outdoors. Wearing a cloth face covering over both the nose and mouth reduces the risk of transmission to others from people who do not have symptoms and do not know they are infected; and (4) Avoiding all physical interaction outside the household when sick with a fever or cough, except for necessary medical care.
20. For purposes of this Order, the "Social (Physical) Distancing Protocol" that must be implemented and posted must demonstrate how the following infection control measures are being implemented and achieved, as applicable:
- a) Limiting the number of people who may enter into the facility at any one time to ensure that people in the facility can easily maintain a minimum six (6) foot physical distance from others, at all times, except as required to complete a business activity or transaction. Members of a single household or living unit may stand or move together but must be separated from others by a physical distance of at least six (6) feet.
  - b) Where lines may form at a facility, marking six (6) foot increments at a minimum, establishing where individuals should stand to maintain adequate Social (Physical) Distancing, whether inside or outside the facility.
  - c) Providing hand sanitizer, soap and water, or effective disinfectant at or near the entrance of the facility and in other appropriate areas for use by the public and employees, and in locations where there is high-frequency employee interaction with members of the public (e.g., cashiers). Restrooms normally open to the public shall remain open to the public.
  - d) Posting a sign in a conspicuous place at all public entries that instructs the public not to enter if they are experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness, including fever or cough, to wear face coverings, and to maintain Social (Physical) Distancing from one another.



- e) Providing for the regular disinfection of high-touch surfaces, and disinfection of all payment portals, pens, and styluses after each use. All businesses are encouraged to also offer touchless payment mechanisms, if feasible.
  - f) Providing face coverings to employees and contracted workers whose duties require close contact with other employees and/or the public. Those who have been instructed by their medical provider that they should not wear a face covering should wear a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, to be in compliance with State directives, as long as their condition permits it. A drape that is form fitting under the chin is preferred. Masks with one-way valves should not be used.
  - g) Requiring that members of the public who enter the facility wear a face-covering over both the nose and mouth, which reduces the risk of “asymptomatic” or “pre-symptomatic” transmission to workers and others, during their time in the facility.
  - h) Adhering to communicable disease control protocols provided by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, including requirements for cleaning and disinfecting the site. See protocols posted at [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/)
21. Operators of businesses that are required to cease in-person operations may conduct Minimum Basic Operations, which means:
- a) The minimum necessary activities to maintain and protect the value of the business's inventory and facilities; ensure security, safety, and sanitation; and process payroll and employee benefits;
  - b) The minimum necessary activities to facilitate the business's owners, employees, and contractors being able to continue to work remotely from their residences, and to ensure that the business can deliver its services remotely.

### **ADDITIONAL TERMS**

22. 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](http://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, and (d) issuing a press release to publicize the Order throughout the County.
- 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](http://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.

23. 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.
24. 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.
25. This Order is issued in consideration of the County's current status within the tiered reopening approach of California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy issued August 28, 2020. This Order may be revised in the future as the State Public Health Officer progressively designates sectors, businesses, establishments, or activities for reopening with required modifications or closure at a pace designed to protect health and safety. Should local COVID-19 conditions warrant, the Health Officer may, after consultation with the Board of Supervisors, issue orders that are more restrictive than the guidance and orders issued by the State Public Health Officer.
26. This Order is consistent with the provisions in the Governor's Executive Order N-60-20 and the State Public Health Officer's May 7, 2020 Order, that local health jurisdictions may implement or continue more restrictive public health measures in the jurisdiction if the local health officer believes conditions in that jurisdiction warrant them. Where a conflict exists between this Order and any state public health order related to controlling the spread of COVID-19 during this pandemic, the most restrictive provision controls. Consistent with California Health and Safety Code section 131080, except where the State Health Officer may issue an order expressly directed at this Order or a provision of this Order and based upon a finding that a provision of this Order constitutes a menace to the public health, any more restrictive measures in this Order may continue to apply and control in the County of Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction.
27. 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 all chiefs of police in all cities located in the Los Angeles County Public Health Jurisdiction ensure compliance with and enforcement of this Order. The violation of any provision of this Order constitutes an imminent threat and menace to public health, constitutes a public nuisance, and is punishable by fine, imprisonment or both.



28. This Order shall become effective immediately on **October 23, 2020** and will continue to be until it is revised, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Health Officer.

**IT IS SO ORDERED:**

**10/23/2020**

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**Muntu Davis, M.D., M.P.H.**  
Health Officer,  
County of Los Angeles

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**Date**

## Appendices At-A-Glance

All DPH protocol is available at:

<http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/>

**Appendix A:** Protocol for Social Distancing [Revised 10/5/2020]

**Appendix B:** Protocols for Retail Establishments Opening for In-person Shopping [Revised 10/5/2020]

**Appendix C:** Reopening Protocol for Warehousing, Manufacturing and Logistic Establishments [Revised 7/18/2020]

**Appendix D:** Protocols for Office Worksites [Revised 8/7/2020]

**Appendix E:** Protocols for Shopping Center Operators [Revised 10/6/2020]

**Appendix F:** Protocol for Places of Worship [Revised 7/17/2020]

**Appendix G:** Protocol for Vehicle-Based Parades [Revised 9/4/2020]

**Appendix H:** [Rescinded and Incorporated into Appendix R on 10/23/2020]

**Appendix I:** Protocol for Restaurants, Breweries and Wineries [Revised 10/23/2020]

**Appendix J:** Reopening Protocol for Music, Film, and Television Production [Revised 8/18/2020]

**Appendix K:** Reopening Protocol for Day Camps [Dated 8/11/2020]

**Appendix L:** Reopening Protocol for Gyms and Fitness Establishments [Revised 8/11/2020]

**Appendix M:** Reopening Protocol for Museums, Galleries, Zoos, and Aquariums [Revised 10/4/2020]

**Appendix N:** Protocol for Professional Sports Leagues and Facilities Opening for Training Sessions and Spectator-Free Events [Revised 8/29/2020]

**Appendix O:** Reopening Protocol for Campgrounds, RV parks and Cabin Rental Units [Revised 8/21/2020]

**Appendix P:** Reopening Protocol for Hotels, Lodging, and Short-Term Rentals [Revised 7/17/2020]

**Appendix Q:** Reopening Protocol for Cardrooms [Revised 10/22/2020]

**Appendix R:** Reopening Protocol for Personal Care Establishments [Revised 10/23/2020]

**Appendix S:** [Rescinded 6/28/2020]

**Appendix T1:** Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools [Revised 10/21/2020]

**Appendix T2:** Protocol for COVID-19 Exposure Management Plan in K-12 Schools [Revised 10/18/20]

**Appendix U:** Reopening Protocol for Institutes of Higher Education [Revised 9/14/2020]

**Appendix V:** Protocols for Miniature Golf, Batting Cages, and Go Kart Racing [Revised 10/23/2020]