

MCC Update

Governor's Project in El Granada Completed

This project totals 83 acres, and retreatment of approximately 65 acres was completed this month (July 2021). Parks Department field staff and contractors thinned understory vegetation and removed eucalyptus re-sprouts to maintain the areas treated by CAL FIRE in 2019. CAL FIRE's original project was designed to expand shaded fuel breaks so first responders could effectively access the interior of the park and conduct wildfire containment and suppression activities. It also improved public safety by reducing fuel loads in the park.

75k el Granada project

This item will come before the Board of Supervisor's on August 3rd for funding approval. In the meantime, Sheena Sidhu and I are working to coordinate the first meeting of a committee that will oversee the project, which will include a representative from the MCC.

Fire coordinator grant

The County is working to pursue a grant opportunity for up to \$175,000 for 18 months to hire a County Coordinator to educate, encourage, and develop county-wide collaboration and coordination among various wildfire mitigation groups operating within counties containing State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands. I will be meeting with the OOS, OES, and CMO tomorrow to discuss this opportunity further.

Pump Track

The SMC Planning Commission approved 4:1 the Coastal Development Permit to construct a "pump track" facility for bicyclists at Quarry Park in the unincorporated El Granada area of San Mateo County today.

\$1 Million for The Big Lift

The Big Lift, our preschool to third-grade collective impact initiative, will be receiving \$1 million in state funding. The \$1 million from the state will help fund a five-week summer learning program with full-day STEAM and literacy enrichment for 1,200 low-income kindergarten through third grade students. The funds will also support the implementation of an evidence-based literacy program for the 2021-22 school year for 720 low-income preschool students.

Covid-19 rates

Pandemic status and response

Covid case in SMC have been increasing; our Public Health team learns of an average of 27 new COVID-19 cases per day, up from around 12 new cases/ day a couple of weeks ago. We have

seen higher numbers on given days in the last week. The number of residents hospitalized due to COVID remains in the single digits.

Our 7-day average per 100K was reported by the State yesterday as 3.5 cases per 100K. We also continue to monitor test positivity both countywide and in the Health Places Index lowest quartile census tracts, which were 1.1% and 1.9%, respectively as reported by the State yesterday. Our testing was reported by the State yesterday at 404 per 100K.

In follow-up to your investment in addressing food security needs for older adults continuing to need home-delivered meals, we began the “Second Course” program to deliver 3,250 meals per week to 650 residents following the sunset of the Great Plates Delivered program on Friday. We are grateful to the community-based organization and city partners assisting Health and Office of Sustainability staff in mobilizing this effort and will continue to adapt the program as we work with the older adults in need.

Vaccine Rollout

The 12–15-year-old group has now reached a 63.5% rate for first doses, and this has happened pretty quickly, but we also know there are almost 15,000 young people in this age group not yet reached. Outreach to pediatric providers continues, including in partnership with Health Plan of San Mateo, to ensure we have all major pediatric providers ready to vaccinate teens, and children under 12 years of age when FDA approval is received.

For now, we see from the State immunization registry report as of July 11th that over 87.4% of eligible residents ages 12+ of San Mateo County have received a COVID vaccine.

Overall, our vaccinations have reached 57.6% people of color, 37.0% white, and 5.4% people of unknown race/ethnicity.

We see from the data dashboard that 121,252 residents 65 and older have been vaccinated so far – this is 78.1% of this age group. Of those 75 and older, 51,479 have been vaccinated, or 73.7% of this age group.

Variants of Concern

three key points:

- First, the Delta Variant has become the major strain circulating in California.
- Second, the heightened concern about this variant is due to its increased transmissibility.
- Third, we continue to closely monitor this situation and support the key protective measures we can take which are increasing reach of the vaccine and continuing to engage residents with the information, access to testing and other supports that reduce transmission.

In the last three months, the Delta variant has become the dominant strain in California. This variant was first detected in the U.S in March 2021. In April, it represented only 2.2% of the

specimens sequenced in California; growing to 5.8% in May, and then to 43% in June. The epidemiology of cases in

San Mateo County have largely mirrored the State throughout the pandemic; and we've seen a similar increase of the Delta Variant.

The Delta variant has higher transmissibility, which means it is more contagious. The epidemic is spreading faster in communities because the virus is more contagious. The good news is that the vaccines are effective against the Delta variant. The 3 vaccines in the U.S. have been shown to remain effective at preventing symptoms (e.g., 64% – 88%) and very effective against preventing hospitalizations and deaths. Unfortunately, the bad news is that because vaccination gaps remain, there is an increase of cases throughout the Bay Area and California, primarily in unvaccinated communities. In reports throughout the country, over 95% of hospitalizations and deaths due to COVID are among those who are unvaccinated..

Vaccination remains the best tool for every individual and the community at large to stay protected.

Quarry Park Governor's Project: <https://parks.smcgov.org/quarry-park-fuel-reduction>

Funding for the Big Lift: <https://sd13.senate.ca.gov/news/july-13-2021/senator-becker-cheers-state-budgets-18m-investment-advance-big-lift-jobtrain>

Fire Coordinator Grant: <https://cafiresafecouncil.org/grants-and-funding/2021-county-coordinators-grant-opportunity/>

Sources: SMC Health website: <https://www.smchealth.org/covidvaccine> SMC Health dashboards: <https://www.smchealth.org/coronavirus-health-data>.

California Department of Public Health website about Variants: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/COVID-Variants.aspx>