

City Manager's Weekly Update

February 12, 2021

Economic Development

Santa Cruz County Remains In Purple Tier

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BLUEPRINT FOR A SAFER ECONOMY WEEKLY STATUS REPORT FOR 02/09/21

WHERE ARE WE IN THE TIERS?

CURRENTLY IN PURPLE TIER 1	WIDESPREAD Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed. Adjusted Cases: More than 7.0 Positivity Rate: More than 8.0%.
SUBSTANTIAL Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed. Adjusted Cases: 4.0 - 7.0 Positivity Rate: 5.0 - 8.0%.	MODERATE Some indoor business operations are open with modifications. Adjusted Cases: 1.0 - 3.9 Positivity Rate: 2.0 - 4.9%.
MINIMAL Most indoor business operations are open with modifications. Adjusted Cases: Less than 1.0 Positivity Rate: Less than 2.0%.	

THIS WEEK'S METRICS:

SC County Metrics	Data Trend	Substantial Tier Targets
Adjusted Cases	18.8 Daily new cases (per 100k)	4-7 Daily new cases (per 100k)
Positive Tests	4.9%* -0.7%	5% - 8%
Weeks in Current Tier**	12	3
Weeks Meeting Lesser Tier Criteria	0	2

*If adjusted cases and positive test metrics fall into two different tiers, the county will be assigned to the more restrictive tier.
**County must be in current tier for 3 weeks and have 2 consecutive weeks with metrics meeting lesser tier to advance

TIER 1 ALLOWS SOME INDOOR ACTIVITIES WITH MODIFICATIONS:

- Hair Salons and Barbershops
- All Retail with max 25% capacity
- Nail Salons & Personal Care Services
- Hotels and Lodging
- Shopping Centers (Malls, Destination Centers, Swap Meets) with:
 - Max 25% capacity
 - Closed common areas
 - Closed food courts

SOME OUTDOOR ONLY ACTIVITIES ARE ALLOWED INCLUDING:

- Restaurants (including bars, breweries, and distilleries providing meal service)
- Wineries
- Gyms and Fitness Centers
- Places of Worship
- Museums, Zoos, and Aquariums
- Movie Theaters
- Family Entertainment Centers
- Gatherings with maximum 3 households

Full list available on the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy website.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BLUEPRINT FOR A SAFER ECONOMY AT
Covid19.Ca.Gov/Safer-Economy
Produced and Distributed by the Economic Recovery Council of Santa Cruz County

PLÁN DE ACCIÓN PARA UNA COMUNIDAD MÁS SEGURA (NIVEL MORADO) INFORME SEMANAL PARA EL 02/09/21

¿DÓNDE ESTAMOS EN LOS NIVELES?

ACTUALMENTE EN NIVEL 1 MORADO	GENERALIZADO Varia actividades comerciales no esenciales en interiores están cerradas. Casos Ajustados: Más de 7.0 Pruebas Positivas: Más de 8.0%.
SUBSTANCIAL Algunas actividades comerciales no esenciales en interiores están cerradas. Casos Ajustados: 4.0 - 7.0 Pruebas Positivas: 5.0 - 8.0%.	MODERADO Algunas actividades comerciales en interiores están abiertas con ciertas modificaciones. Casos Ajustados: 1.0 - 3.9 Pruebas Positivas: 2.0 - 4.9%.
MINIMO La mayoría de las actividades comerciales en interiores están abiertas con ciertas modificaciones. Casos Ajustados: Menos de 1.0 Pruebas Positivas: Menos de 2.0%.	

LAS ESTADÍSTICAS DE ESTA SEMANA:

Datos del Condado SC	Tendencias de Datos	Metas de Nivel Razonables
Casos Ajustados	18.8 Casos nuevos diarios (por 100 mil)	4 - 7 Casos nuevos diarios (por 100 mil)
Pruebas Positivas	4.9%* -0.7%	5% - 8%
Semanas En Niveles Actuales**	12	3
Semanas Con Criterios de Menor Importancia	0	2

*Si los casos ajustados y los datos de casos positivos caen entre dos diferentes niveles, el condado asignará el nivel más restrictivo

**El Condado debe estar en niveles actuales durante 3 semanas y tener 2 Semanas consecutivas con niveles de datos inferiores para avanzar

EL NIVEL 1 AUTORIZA ALGUNAS ACTIVIDADES PARA CENAR EN INTERIOR CON CIERTAS MODIFICACIONES

- Peluquerías y Barberías
- Ventas al detalle con capacidad max de 25%
- Salones de Uñas
- Servicios de cuidado personal
- Hoteles y alojamientos
- Centros comerciales (malls, centros de destinación, feria) con:
 - Max capacidad de 25%
 - Áreas comunes cerradas
 - Capacidad reducida en los "food courts" (ver restaurantes)

ALGUNAS ACTIVIDADES EN EXTERIOR ÚNICAMENTE SON AUTORIZADAS INCLUYENDO:

- Restaurants (incluidos Bares, Cervecerías y Destilerías donde se provee comida)
- Bodegas, Viñedos
- Gimnasios y centros de ejercicios
- Lugares de Culto
- Museos, zoológicos, y acuarios
- Salas de cine
- Centros de Entretenimiento Familiar
- Reuniones con máximo de 3 hogares

La lista completa está disponible en el sitio web del plan de acción estatal para una economía más segura.

MÁS INFORMACIÓN SOBRE EL PLÁN DE ACCIÓN PARA UNA ECONOMÍA SEGURA AL:
Covid19.Ca.Gov/Safer-Economy
Producido y distribuido por el consejo de recuperación económica del condado de Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz County remains in the most restrictive tier, purple Tier 1, which allows outdoor dining, hair salons, personal services, and some other operations closed under the stay home order to resume. [View the full list of what is allowed under each tier here.](#)

This week's COVID-19 status report shows a decline in adjusted cases to 18.8 and test positivity rate of 4.9%. For more information about the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy [click here](#). For information about vaccine distribution please [visit the County's website here](#).

Infrastructure & Property Development | Graffiti Abatement Program Update

January 2021 had a total of 335 public tags that the City removed. That's 96 fewer tags compared to January 2020.



How to Report Graffiti –

- Report via [Community Request for Service Portal \(CRSP\) App](#)
- Call the Graffiti Hotline at (831) 420-5303

Describe the tag, the object or surface, and the nearest address or cross-street location, and, if possible, a photo.

Quick removal within 24 to 48 hours is the most effective way to deterrent against graffiti vandalism. The longer graffiti remains, the greater the chances graffiti vandals will return. For more information about the City of Santa Cruz Graffiti Abatement Program, receiving a free removal kit, and other resources, please visit our website at www.cityofsantacruz.com/graffiti.

Arts & Culture Development | Califas Legacy Project Focuses On Latinx Artists Of Central Coast

The Califas Legacy Project is an amazing collaboration between the Museo Eduardo Carrillo and the Moving Parts Press. The focus is on Latinx artists of the Central Coast. The project includes an online retrospective of Califas Legacy artists with [video vignettes](#). For a wonderful 10 minute overview of the project, watch the video produced by Wallace Boss.

<https://museoeduardocarrillo.org/califas-legacy/>.



The City Arts Program supported the production of a trade size version of the [Califas: The Ancestral Journey/El Viaje Ancestral](#), a mural art accordion fold book produced by the Moving Parts Press. It is being distributed to libraries, museums and other

youth-servicing organizations to recognize the need to bring visibility to a vacant place in the Chicano/a/x culture's art history by sharing the work of our region's leading Chicano/a/x artists.



The Santa Cruz Public Libraries are part of this initiative. Starting Jan. 8 and remaining through April, Califas: The Ancestral Journey/El Viaje Ancestral Series of banners are displayed in street-facing windows at the corner of Locust and Center streets.

The UCSC Sesnon Gallery has launched a virtual exhibition hub and website. The launch exhibition on Feb. 3 included a

panel discussion with Amalia Mesa-Bains, Philip Brookman, and others. More programming will be presented throughout the exhibition on the Sesnon website. On a related theme, this month, the Sesnon Gallery is hosting a conversation with guest artists Irene Juárez O'Connell and Victor Cervantes and hear about their community-centered art practice, activism, and continued resistance against cultural erasure. [Learn more.](#)



Housing Development & Preservation | City Receives \$5 Million For Local Housing Trust Fund

The California Department of Housing and Community Development announced today that the City of Santa Cruz has been awarded a Local Housing Trust Fund (LHTF) program award of \$5,000,000. We are excited to have received this critical funding for our current affordable housing projects in the works.

Housing Monitoring Process Moves Online

The annual compliance monitoring for ADUs, Successor Agency Rentals, First Time Home Buyers, and Measure O Sales and Rentals is now available online. This new process will simplify and speed up the monitoring process for the Housing Team. Each program's monitoring will be available in stages, and all necessary information will be available on the website.

Please visit www.cityofsantacruz.com/monitoring to view the new annual compliance monitoring page.

Parks and Recreation

40th Annual Santa Cruz Clam Chowder Cook-Off Reimagined Restaurant Week Begins

Starting Monday, local Santa Cruz restaurants will be serving up clam chowder to compete for the title of Best Santa Cruz Clam Chowder. Visit them and vote for your favorite with a Clam Chowder Reimagined Passport. Passports are only \$10, and all proceeds benefit the City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation department. **Restaurant week runs February 15-21, 2021.**

The Passport includes:

- List of all participating Santa Cruz County restaurants.
- People's Choice voting link to vote for your favorite chowder.
- Entry into the Clam Chowder Cook-off Reimagined Raffle. A chance to win one of the many prizes donated by local supporting businesses! One entry per Passport. Purchase more than one for more chances to win! *No purchase necessary to enter the raffle.*
- [Purchase your Passport today!](#)



For a list of all participating restaurants and Restaurant Week details, visit CityOfSantaCruz.com/Chowder.

Public Works

Engineering

We have completed the first phase of the Ocean St. and Water St. Northwest Corner Improvement Project that is reconfiguring the corner and intersection to allow for two left-turn lanes from Ocean southbound to Water eastbound. More room for the intersection was created by moving the sidewalk at the NW corner and expanding the traveled way.



Parking

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, \$18,439 was awarded to Hope Services on behalf of Parking for Hope, our 2020 City holiday program hosted with the Downtown Association. Since the program began in 2014, a total of \$202,525 has been donated to Hope Services -- a Santa Cruz nonprofit providing training and support services to adults with developmental disabilities. The funds increase opportunities for workers who help to keep downtown streets clean and welcoming. [Read more.](#)



Wastewater Collections

Twice during our recent storm event, Wastewater Collections staff opened the Neary Lagoon Storm Drainage Outlet at Cowell Beach to manage high water levels. This photo shows water collected from City storm drains and pumped from Neary Lagoon to establish gravity flow. Our staff manages the urban watershed 24/7 and operate the pumps when needed. Our crews physically monitor the stormwater discharge and deliver ample warning to persons in the water and on the beach before the pumping operation commences. It rarely takes more than 5-10 minutes of pumping or sand removal to prevent City flooding and restore natural water flow from the Lagoon.



Neary Lagoon, between the walking paths and the railroad tracks, is covered in dense vegetation and is a site of trash accumulation from former campsites. The Wastewater Collections Division lent staff support and a dump truck to contractor-led cleanup efforts. Over 5 tons of trash was hauled to the landfill. A large bag of sharps was properly disposed of. Area fencing will need to be upgraded to prevent further degradation of waterways that lead to Neary Lagoon.



Environmental Laboratory

The laboratory manager and lead chemist from the City of Watsonville Wastewater Facility visited our Environmental Laboratory on Feb. 4 to learn more about a few of the sophisticated technologies we employ. These include source tracking efforts using respirometry to test the toxicity of potential chemicals entering a wastewater plant and testing a new root-removing chemical and assessing if it would be harmful to wastewater treatment processes. They were also interested in the microbial source tracking efforts that our microbiologists have used in a countywide effort to understand fecal sources to our rivers and beaches. The third point of their visit was to view our TOC (total organic

carbon) instrumentation. Our facility is one of the few facilities to use TOC instead of historical Biological Oxygen Demand measurements that regulate the cleanliness of our treated wastewater. The advantages of converting to TOC are better measurement quality control and faster turnaround time for results.

Many employees and residents understand that the Environmental Laboratory at the Wastewater Treatment Facility is essential to meet our obligations under the Clean Water Act and to provide accurate, fast information to the plant operators for process control. What some don't know is that we also serve much of the City's other environmental needs, such as storm water sampling. Another great example in these past few weeks is that with so much rain, the City engineers relied on our lab to provide consultation, sampling equipment and analytical results required for the City landfill's stormwater regulatory obligations.

