



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco
London N. Breed
Mayor

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of June 2, 2020

A current overview of issues affecting the state of public health in San Francisco

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

City embarks on the path to recovery

Today, there are over 2,500 San Francisco residents with confirmed cases of COVID-19. And, sadly, a total of 42 San Franciscans have died. The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) sends our condolences to their loved ones.

While San Francisco and the Bay Area continue our pandemic response, the Health Department and in City government will be preparing for the future by continuing to follow the science, data and facts and build out the public health infrastructure to support a gradual reopening and phased recovery. We will continue to watch five key indicators, to track our progress. These five indicators include:

1. Cases – monitoring if the number of new cases per day is flat or decreasing
2. Hospital capacity – watching our hospitalizations to ensure that our health system is prepared to serve patients with COVID-19 and other conditions
3. Personal protective equipment – sufficient supplies for health care workers for 30 days
4. Testing – we are continuing to expand testing; and
5. Contact tracing – and supporting people to isolate and quarantine.

Our recovery as a community will depend on our ability to protect the most vulnerable, and to maintain a health system that can respond to continued outbreaks. DPH will keep a close eye on the data, so that we can move forward, or pause, or increase restrictions, depending on the spread of the virus in the community.

New Health Order requires residents and workers to wear face coverings outside the home

On May 28, Mayor London N. Breed and Director of Health Dr. Grant Colfax announced that everyone in San Francisco will be required to wear face coverings on most occasions when they are outside of their homes, a step that will be critical to the City's ability to safely reopen further. The new rule strengthens the existing face covering Health Order by extending it to more activities. Wearing face coverings will be an essential habit to reduce the likelihood of transmitting the virus from person to person.



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco
London N. Breed
Mayor

The requirement is a Health Order by Dr. Tomás Aragón, Health Officer of the City and County of San Francisco. The Order is effective at 11:59 p.m. on May 29, 2020. It is informed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. Previously, the City recommended face coverings on April 2nd, and then required them on April 17th for all essential businesses and in public facilities, on transit and when performing essential work. Now that requirement is expanded to whenever people are outside their homes in most situations in San Francisco, with very limited exceptions.

Wearing a face covering is most effective when combined with physical distancing and hand washing. It is not a substitute for staying home, but it is a way to protect other people and reduce the chance of transmission when outside the house. San Francisco's Stay Home order is still in effect, and residents should continue to stay inside as much as possible.

Face coverings should cover the nose and mouth and fit securely. They can be a manufactured or homemade mask, a bandanna, scarf, towel, neck gaiter or similar item. Cloth face coverings should be cleaned frequently with soap and water.

Masks with one-way valves are not effective because they allow air droplets to freely escape when the wearer exhales. They should not be worn and do not qualify as a face covering under the order. Medical masks – such as isolation masks or N95 masks – are not necessary for the general public. These items are still in short supply and must be reserved for health care workers and first responders.

Compliance with the new rule is not anticipated to be an issue, as the vast majority of San Franciscans have been adhering to the Stay Home Order and social distancing. Many people already are wearing face coverings outside. However, the order does carry the force of law, and noncompliance is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

Timeline and Plan for Safely Reopening

On May 28, Mayor Breed announced a plan for reopening San Francisco that will allow certain businesses and activities to resume with modifications in phases over the coming weeks and months. As long as San Francisco continues to make progress slowing the spread of COVID-19, meets key health indicators, and state guidance continues to allow more activities, San Francisco restaurants will be able to offer outdoor dining, retail businesses will be able to allow customers to shop inside with modifications, and additional outdoor activities can resume on June 15th. The City plans to allow additional activities and businesses to resume in July and August, depending on the key indicators .



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco
London N. Breed
Mayor

Part of San Francisco's plan for safely reopening includes requiring residents to wear face coverings on most occasions when they leave their home and are near other people, both indoors and outdoors. The public also must comply with other health and safety requirements and recommendations such as social distancing, handwashing, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces.

San Francisco's current Stay Home Health Order does not have an expiration date and will be amended over the coming weeks and months to allow for a gradual and safer reopening. The plan details the next phases, and provides dates that the City anticipates additional businesses and activities can resume with modifications. The dates in the plan will be finalized through amendments to the Health Order or directives, and will be guided by health indicators. If the City make progress faster than expected, then the timeline outlined below may shift to allow some reopening to occur earlier. For each phase, guidance will be issued to provide businesses and operators with adequate time for planning and compliance with health and safety requirements.

Summer Camps can operate starting June 15

On May 22, Mayor Breed announced San Francisco's summer camps and summer programs can reopen on June 15th with limited capacity and modifications intended to prevent the spread of COVID-19. On the same day, DPH issued a Health Order for summer camps and programs that is consistent with the statewide guidelines.

Under the Health Order, Francisco summer camps and programs can open this summer for children and youth ages six to 17. The camps and programs are open to all children and youth in San Francisco. Summer camps and programs must prioritize spaces for children of people who work in businesses and organizations that are allowed to operate under the Health Order, including children and youth of parents who are telecommuting for an allowable business. Camps and programs must also prioritize children and youth who need it the most, including low-income youth and those who are part of the most vulnerable populations. The Order applies to public and private camps and summer programs, and includes safety measures such as temperature screenings and enhanced cleaning. The City will allow summer camps and programs serving children to begin operating on June 15th, 2020 through August 17th, 2020.

In addition to allowing summer camps and programs to open, the Order clarifies that child care programs may continue operating or reopen. The San Francisco Health Officer will continually review whether modifications to the Order are needed.

Testing

San Francisco is working to expand testing as it is a key health indicator that impacts the progress of our re-opening. San Francisco has made great strides in building testing capacity and getting people



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco
London N. Breed
Mayor

tested. We lead the Bay Area and the state in testing. As of today, over 68,000 people in San Francisco have been tested, and an average of 5% have tested positive. We have goal of testing between 1,600-2,000 people per day, based on state guidelines and our population. Throughout the month of May, we have completed an average of about 1,525 tests per day.

Today, we are able to test anyone that matches any of the below criteria:

- any worker that serves San Francisco and who leaves their home to work can get tested for COVID-19, regardless of symptoms or exposure.
- any person living in San Francisco with at least one symptom of COVID-19 or who has been exposed to someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 can get tested.
- any person who has come in close contact with a confirmed case, regardless of symptoms

Mayor and Public Safety Officials announce curfew in San Francisco

On May 30, Mayor London N. Breed, in consultation with the City's public safety partners, announced that she will implement a citywide curfew beginning Sunday, May 31, 2020. The curfew requires people within the City of San Francisco to stay indoors from 8 p.m. until 5 a.m. Monday, June 1, 2020. The Mayor's order will keep the community safe in the wake of the civil unrest that erupted yesterday evening, May 30, in the City, and across the nation. This followed a day of peaceful and lawful demonstrations in San Francisco, protesting George Floyd's tragic death in Minneapolis last week. These conditions make the unrestricted presence of persons on City streets and sidewalks after 8:00 p.m. dangerous to both them and the public's safety. For more information about the curfew, please visit www.sf72.org.

DPH acknowledges the pain, hurt and frustration our community feels about the violence we continue to see as it relates to Black/African Americans and police officers across the nation. We appreciate the compassion and courage of those who are standing up to protest injustice peacefully and safely. We are asking for your continued cooperation and support for the health of our San Francisco community.

COVID-19 continues to threaten our City and the stay at home order remains in effect. We know the spread of the coronavirus transmits rapidly among large groups of people who are not physically distancing at a minimum of 6 feet apart. DPH has issued guidance on how to stay safer together when outside the home including in legal, safe and peaceful protest activities:

- Always wear a mask or face covering properly and physically distance yourself at least 6 feet from people outside of your household. These measures will significantly help prevent and



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco
London N. Breed
Mayor

slow the transmission of COVID-19, protecting your health and the health of others in our communities.

- Because COVID-19 is spread through respiratory droplets, put extra distance between yourself and anyone who is yelling or chanting, especially if they are unmasked.
- Avoid touching other people, or sharing food, beverages, sign-making materials, or anything else unless it's an absolute emergency.
- Consider the COVID-19 risk of your loved ones and those you live with
- Consider alternate ways to take action and express yourself including virtual action, calling local politicians, or donating to bail funds, social justice organizations, legal defense, and other community organizations that promote civils rights and equity.