



SAN JOAQUIN
— COUNTY —
Greatness grows here.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 2021

Contact: Jolena Voorhis

jvoorhis@sjgov.org / (209) 468-2997

San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors Receive COVID-19 Updates and Take Actions
Board Adopts Resolution Opposing Vaccination Passports in Order to Enter Public and Private Buildings

STOCKTON –San Joaquin County Director of Health Care Services Greg Diederich told the Board of Supervisors yesterday that COVID-19 case rates and hospitalizations continue to show promising declines throughout the County. Mr. Diederich told the Supervisors that case rates continue to drop steadily and are now at 16.1 cases per 100,000 which is down from 26.7 cases two weeks ago and down from 50.7 during the height of surge on August 21st. He said while this is good news, the target rate should be at least under 10 cases per 100,000.

San Joaquin County COVID-19 latest statistics as of October 8, 2021:

- 96,869 total COVID-19 cases; 1,681 deaths; 117 people hospitalized; 41 people in ICU; 38 people on ventilators
- 827,753 vaccine doses have been administered in the County
- 58.5% (380,117 residents) are fully vaccinated and another 8.5% (55,329 residents), have received partial vaccinations through the County, as well as other multi-county entities, hospital systems, and pharmacies comprising 66.9% of San Joaquin County's total population
- 67% of the population has received at least one dose
- County hospital ICU's remain over 100% capacity, but only 44% of hospital ICU beds are filled by COVID-19 patients.

To view weekly updates of the County's COVID-19 statistics, visit:

<http://www.sjcphs.org/Disease/Epidemiology.aspx>

Mr. Diederich told the Board that testing continues at a relatively high rate and will soon surpass 1.5 million tests administered to County residents. He said that even though the County's positivity rate continues to fall at 4.5 percent, it is still more than twice the state average of 2.2 percent. He said that many testing and vaccination events are being held in partnership with County clinics with walk-in events that do not require pre-registration. Mr. Diederich said there are an additional 16 fixed testing sites with 10 sites offering rapid antigen tests. He said that starting today, the County is unveiling five additional testing sites in partnership with Fulgent Labs and several school districts including a launch today with Escalon High School and in the coming weeks with Jefferson, Banta, Lincoln and Ripon Unified School Districts. Mr. Diederich also said the County continues to make persistent and incremental progress on COVID-19 vaccinations where the average daily statewide vaccine rate increased from about 70,000 per day to 90,000 per day upon recent approval of booster vaccinations. He said no mass vaccination booster events are currently being planned in San Joaquin County at this time.

Mr. Diederich informed the Board that the Governor directed the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to add COVID-19 vaccines to other vaccinations required for in-person school attendance such as measles, mumps

and rubella. Requirements would be established by regulation not legislation and would be subject to exemptions for both medical reasons and personal beliefs.

- Students will be required to be vaccinated for in-person learning starting the term 6 months following full FDA approval of vaccines for the students' grade span (e.g.: grades 7-12 or K-6).
- COVID-19 vaccination requirements will apply to all pupils of public or private elementary or secondary school and will be a condition of in-person attendance.
- Adults be held to the same standard as students and while California currently requires all K-12 staff to verify their vaccine status or be tested weekly, all school staff will be required to be vaccinated for COVID-19 no later than the requirements that take effect for students.

Mr. Diederich noted, "Educators, public health experts and parents know there is no substitution for in-person public instruction, but we also can't pretend that the threat of COVID-19 and its variants are completely behind us. We continue to urge everyone who is eligible to get a vaccine to do so. Vaccination remains our most effective means of ending the pandemic and fully reopening our economy and our schools."

Board Actions:

The Board adopted a resolution prohibiting the use of vaccine passports by any county offices, board or agent and strongly discouraging the use of vaccine passports by any other agency or business within the county. The resolution was brought to the Board after other counties in California like Los Angeles and San Francisco adopted ordinances requiring mandatory use of vaccination passports for individuals entering public and private establishments.

"The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors strongly discourages the use of vaccine passports by any other agency or business within the county", said Tom Patti, Chairman of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors. "Our businesses have suffered throughout the pandemic and this unnecessary restriction will further erode many businesses ability to survive by eliminating a large percentage of the unvaccinated population from entering, working, or using specific businesses or government services. Everyone should be free to choose whether or not to receive the COVID-19 vaccinations or boosters and no one should be discriminated against in any way for the personal medical decisions they make."

Consent Items

- Approved use of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act grant funds for the Terminal and Fire Station Carpet Project at the Stockton Metropolitan Airport in the amount of \$31,616, and related budget adjustments.
- Approved use of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act grant funds, for the Runway Rubber Removal and Marking Restriping Project at the Stockton Metropolitan Airport in the amount of \$48,450, and related budget adjustments.
- Approved use of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act grant funds for the Air Conditioning Package Unit Replacement Project at the Stockton Metropolitan Airport in the amount of \$57,799, and related budget adjustments.
- Approved retroactive increase to purchase order with Snapmed Tech, Inc., DBA SnapNurse for supplemental staffing, effective September 10, 2021 through November 13, 2021, increasing the amount by \$6,800,000 to a total not to exceed amount of \$7,000,000, and related budget adjustments.

###