

Alameda County Board of Supervisors COVID Briefing

February 11, 2021



Alameda County
Health Care Services Agency



Alameda County Public Health Department
Celebrating Healthy People in Healthy Communities

Agenda

- Local COVID Update
 - Variant Update
 - Shelter in Place
- State and Federal Vaccine policy updates
- COVID Testing
- RoomKey
- Mega PODs



Variants Updates

- AC variants of concern or interest
 - 1 known B.1.351 (SA Variant); investigation pending – media interest
 - 7 known B.1.1.1.7 (UK variant)
 - Multiple B.1429/B.1427 (West Coast)
 - No known Brazil variants
- Investigating each reported case
- No changes to local prevention and vaccine policy related to variants
 - FDA: Pfizer and Moderna vax should be effective against these variants
 - Diligent face coverings and physical distancing the most important measure
 - Continue to vaccinate as fast as supply allows



Alameda County Shelter in Place

- Currently in Purple Tier
 - Timeline for Red Tier uncertain – likely weeks
- Supreme Court ordered State to allow indoor worship on 2/5
 - Can be limited to 25% of capacity
- K-6 schools with approved safety plan could open as of 2/5
 - State school guidance in effect for Alameda County
 - Vaccination of staff and students not required for safe school operations
 - State launching schools and districts dashboard
- Expect changes to youth sports, including more sports in Purple



State vaccine updates

- Attempting to characterize dose utilization and inventory in LHJs
 - Expected to publish utilization data by LHJ and provider
 - Expected to tie allocations to utilization
 - AC staff working to make sure our provider data is accurate
- LHJs should not reserve second doses beyond 7 days
- Launching TPA vaccine allocation program in Central Valley
 - My Turn Required
 - Vaccine allocations will be tied to utilization
 - Full details and timeline for AC not clear yet
 - Equity impacts unclear



CDC Modified Quarantine Guidance

- Fully vaccinated persons who are close contacts to known cases do not need to quarantine within 3 months of last vaccine dose in series
 - Also applies to vaccinated healthcare workers
 - Does not apply to inpatients and residents in health care facilities
- No other changes to public health measures for vaccinated persons
- Awaiting state comment on this change



RoomKey

- On January 21, 2021, the Biden Administration announced 100% FEMA reimbursement for COVID-19 non-congregate shelter, such as Project RoomKey
- FEMA reimbursement is retroactively available from the start of the pandemic through September 2021
- As discussed at a prior briefing, following this announcement, we paused implementation of the phase down plan
- We have been working on a budget and FEMA claiming plan to maximize federal funding, which we plan to bring to your Board briefing next week
- In the interim, we plan to resume referrals to accept new guests to rooms that were slated for closure
- Keeping hotels open will help to keep people safe, slow community spread, and get more people vaccinated while they shelter in place.



Fairgrounds Mega POD

- Planning soft open on February 15th
- Will close on Tuesday to focus on Coliseum and analyze soft launch findings
- Will reopen late week of 15th or week of 22nd
- Staffing with firefighters and HCSA staff
- Agreement in process with GSA that grounds costs will be covered by the three partners, one third each
- Partners are reserving 1/3 of their appointments to accept our priority populations



Coliseum Mega POD

- CalOES is lead on the operation
- Federal partners reached out to pull health care closer
- HCSA is:
 - Representing County as health lead in Coliseum Unified Command – *Colleen Chawla lead*
 - Working to compile CBO lists and develop prioritization framework to suggest to the state – *Kimi Watkins-Tartt lead with support of Carol Burton*
 - Interfacing with state and federal partners to implement CBO prioritization – *Aneeka Chaudhry lead*



Coliseum Mega POD

- Anticipated 8 week operation
- Site open to 1a, and 1bT1—it “mirrors” eligibility authorized by the County
- 2 mobile units to come online in a week or two
- Site is not limited to Alameda County
 - Publicly-available appointments will not be “geo-fenced”
- 50% of appointments to be reserved for CBO-outreached appointments
 - CalOES intends to hold a call w/CBOs
 - Will share appointment codes on 2/14 to enable CBOs to fill appointments
- 2/15 media availability— not interested in a press conference at this time
- Site live on 2/16

