



Scenic Pacifica
Incorporated Nov. 22, 1957

CITY OF PACIFICA

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MAYOR
Sue Beckmeyer

MAYOR PRO TEM
Mary Bier

COUNCIL
Mike O'Neill
Sue Vaterlaus
Tygarjas Bigstyck

December 22, 2020

To the Members of the Pacifica Community,

I am very honored to have been voted Mayor by my co-Councilmembers at the Dec. 14, 2020 City Council meeting. I look forward to serving our community with Councilmember Mary Bier as Mayor pro Tem. Congratulations to newly elected Councilmember Tygarjas Bigstyck, representing District 4, and to Councilmember and former Mayor Sue Vaterlaus, elected by voters in District 1. All Councilmembers join me in expressing our deep appreciation to outgoing Mayor and Councilmember Deirdre Martin for four years of dedicated service to the citizens of Pacifica, and we wish Deirdre and her family well.

As Mayor, I will provide regular updates about the COVID-19 pandemic and other important issues affecting our community. It is extremely unfortunate that 10 months into this pandemic we continue to struggle, and the dramatic holiday season spike in cases has resulted in a new Regional Stay At Home Order. It is certainly not the holiday season any of us were hoping for. However, I am optimistic that we will get through this together and, with vaccinations on their way, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

This update provides information about the new Stay At Home Order, COVID-19 testing resources, and vaccinations; suggestions for celebrating the holidays while staying safe; and how we can support Pacifica's local businesses.

Mandatory Regional Stay At Home Order: As predicted by health officials, unsafe Thanksgiving holiday gathering behavior has caused a mid-December spike in COVID-19 cases, a surge in hospitalizations, and a dangerous decline in ICU capacity, driving our 11 county Bay Area region into the state's mandatory Stay At Home Order. This order prohibits private gatherings of any size, except outdoor church services and political demonstrations. Restaurants may offer only take-out and delivery, no indoor or outdoor dining. Many businesses must close once again, including salons and barbershops, while retail businesses may remain open at 20 percent capacity – 35% for grocery stores. Outdoor exercise activities are permitted. This order will remain in effect for at least three weeks, until January 7. More details are available at <https://www.smcgov.org/press-release/san-mateo-county-now-under-regional-stay-home-order-virus-cases-hospitalizations-rise>.

Testing Resources: San Mateo County is making COVID-19 testing options safe, easy, and free of charge at County-sponsored locations for everyone who works or lives in San Mateo County, regardless of their symptoms. Details are available at <https://www.smcgov.org/testing>. Recently, the City partnered with the County and held a testing event at the Sea Bowl parking lot, where more than 120 tests were administered.

Vaccination Information: Everyone is asking when, how, and in what priority order will vaccinations be given. To read more about the County's plans, see <https://www.smchealth.org/covid-19-vaccination>. Healthcare workers and residents in long-term care facilities are prioritized for the initial administration of vaccines, which has already begun. The County is also focused on equity in distribution of vaccines.

Holiday Creativity and Small Business Support: The holidays are traditionally filled with family gatherings, crowded parties, shopping, and dining. Well, the Grinch can't steal our cheer and creativity in finding ways to celebrate the end of this very tough year. The City's Economic Development Committee, and the San Mateo County Economic Development Association and Recovery Initiative, are promoting information about how we can celebrate the season, stay safe, and help our small businesses that need so much support right now:

- Check the [San Mateo County Library website](#) for fun holiday activities, books, and content streaming for all ages;
- [Pacific Coast TV](#) offers local information and entertainment, much of which is created by local Pacifica residents;
- The [San Mateo County Recovery Initiative](#) has developed a *Holidays at Home* online campaign that features a list of 12 activities that residents can do to celebrate the holidays while staying safe. The *Holiday at Home* campaign can be found [here](#);
- Buy local, whether on-line or in person, including gift-certificates to local retail shops and restaurants. [Click here for a list](#) of local Pacifica restaurants that are open for takeout and delivery. Please support our local merchants as much as possible during the holidays.

Finally, to receive weekly updates, please sign up for the City's e-newsletter "Connect with Pacifica" here: www.cityofpacificca.org/government/city_manager/cwp/default.asp, and sign up for San Mateo County Emergency Alert system here: hsd.smcsheriff.com/smcalert.

I hope this information is helpful to you. As we reflect on 2020 and open the door to a better year in 2021, I know as Pacificans we will get through this challenging pandemic together, even if we're physically apart. We are **#PacificaStrong**.

Wishing you peaceful holidays and a very Happy New Year,



SUE BECKMEYER

Mayor

*Please remember to **WEAR** a mask, **WASH** your hands, **WATCH** your distance, **WAIT** for the vaccine...
and above all, **STAY HOME** and **STAY SAFE!!***