



# Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Grisanti and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

Approved by: Steve McClary, City Manager

Date prepared: July 20, 2022 Meeting date: August 8, 2022

Subject: Consideration of the Resumption of In-Person Meetings

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** 1) Receive an update on the current State and County public health regulations; and 2) Consider options for the resumption of in-person public meetings and give direction to staff as needed.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There is no fiscal impact for this recommended action. Depending on what direction Council provides on the resumption of in-person meetings, additional funding may be necessary to fund staff overtime costs needed to facilitate public meetings that was not included in the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

**WORK PLAN:** This item was included as item 1a in the Adopted Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

**DISCUSSION:** The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LADPH) continues to track COVID-19 cases, including those resulting from variants of the virus. With increasing rates of transmission associated with highly infectious sub-variants, the County is facing elevated risk. At the community level, all are at a much higher risk this summer as more people infected with the virus have greater opportunity to transmit it at summer gatherings, while traveling, or when attending events. Essential workers, especially those that work directly with the public, now are likely to have more exposures to the virus during their workday.

On July 5, due to the surge in COVID cases and the resulting positive cases among City staff, it was announced that City Hall was considered to be in “outbreak” status per LADPH. As a result, the mask requirement in City Hall was reinstated for all staff and visitors. This directive will remain in place until further notice.

On July 15, LADPH announced that Los Angeles County had entered the High COVID Community Level on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Community Levels framework after hospital admissions exceeded 10 new hospital admissions per 100,000 people. The County's admission rate of 10.5 new admissions was an 88% increase when compared to one month ago.

If the County remains in the High COVID-19 Community Level for two consecutive weeks, universal indoor masking will be implemented on July 29 to help slow the rate of transmission and protect those most vulnerable. If implemented, it would remain in effect until the County returns to the medium level for two consecutive weeks.

Attached is an excerpt from the July 20, 2022 LADPH News Release outlining critical statistics for the past week throughout Los Angeles County. (Read the full news release on the [LADPH Media webpage](#).)

At this time, staff recommends that the Council determine a threshold level at which time it would again consider resuming in-person meetings. For example, the Council could choose to bring this item back only after the County returns to the Low COVID Community Level, or if it is on track to do so. At that time, the Council would discuss whether meetings would be in person or hybrid and whether that decision would apply only to the Council and Planning Commission meetings or meetings of all City commissions, committees, and task forces.

ATTACHMENTS: Excerpt from LADPH News Release of July 20, 2022

# EXCERPT FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS RELEASE OF JULY 20, 2022 \*



For Immediate Release:

**July 20, 2022**

## **Public Health Reports 6,450 New Positive Cases and 18 New Deaths Due to COVID-19 in Los Angeles County**

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) today released the latest data on COVID-19.

- 6,450 New COVID-19 cases (3,236,632 cases to date)
- 18 New deaths due to COVID-19 (32,566 deaths to date)
- 1,328 people currently hospitalized with COVID-19
- More than 12,283,000 individuals tested; 23% of people tested positive to date

<b>Daily New Cases, Positivity Rate, Hospitalization of Confirmed Cases and Deaths Last 7 Days</b>							
	<b>W</b>	<b>Tu</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Su</b>	<b>Sa</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Th</b>
	<b>7/20</b>	<b>7/19</b>	<b>7/18</b>	<b>7/17</b>	<b>7/16</b>	<b>7/15</b>	<b>7/14</b>
Daily new cases	6,450	4,327	3,943*	7,403*	7,503	8,954	8,535
Daily deaths	18	12	4*	6*	19	16	14
Daily hospitalizations of confirmed cases	1,328	1,299	1,273	1,282	1,252	1,223	1,202
Daily positivity rate (7-day avg)	16.7%	16.2%	16.0%	16.0%	16.1%	16.2%	16.1%

Data is by date reported by DPH, but does not necessarily represent the date of testing, hospitalization, or death.

\* Number reflects an undercount due to a lag from weekend reporting.

\* Read the full news release at <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/phcommon/public/media/mediapubhpdetail.cfm?prid=3970>

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A wide range of data and dashboards on COVID-19 from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health are available on the Public Health website at <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov> including:

- [COVID-19 Daily Data \(cases, deaths, testing, testing positivity rate, mortality rate, and hospitalizations\)](#)
- [Gender, Age, Race/Ethnicity and City/Community Cases and Deaths](#)
- [Contact Tracing Metrics](#)
- [Skilled Nursing Facility Metrics](#)
- Citations due to Health Officer Order Noncompliance
- Outbreaks:
  - Residential Congregate Settings
  - Non-Residential Settings
  - Homeless Service Settings

Please see additional information below:

	<b>Total Cases</b>
<b>Laboratory Confirmed Cases</b>	3,236,632
-- Los Angeles County (excl. LB and Pas)	3,061,758
-- Long Beach	141,410
-- Pasadena	33,464
<b>Deaths</b>	32,566
-- Los Angeles County (excl. LB and Pas)	30,852
-- Long Beach	1,293
-- Pasadena	421

<b>Hospitalization (LA County Cases Only-excl LB and Pas)</b>	
- Hospitalized (Ever)***	144,655

<b>CITY / COMMUNITY**</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>Case Rate</b>
City of Agoura Hills	5,640	27,008
City of Calabasas	4,913	20,199
City of Hidden Hills	338	17,884
City of Malibu	2,540	19,597
City of Westlake Village	337	4,031

\* Read the full news release at <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/phcommon/public/media/mediapubhpdetail.cfm?prid=3970>

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PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS RELEASE OF JULY 20, 2022 \***