



North Fair Oaks Community Council
*A Municipal Advisory Council to the
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors*

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Redwood City, CA
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Everardo Rodriguez, Chair
Beatriz Cerrillo, Vice-Chair
Rosario Gonzalez
Linda López
Rosaura López
Jennifer Ruiz
Blair Whitney
Francis Santos, Youth Member
Esmeralda Rosales, Alternate
Youth Member

May 28, 2020

7:00pm

The North Fair Oaks Community Council provides recommendations on the issues of community health, safety, welfare, public works and planning for the North Fair Oaks geographic area. It holds regular monthly meetings to address the needs of the community, act as a forum, and serve as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors.

Pursuant to the Shelter in Place Orders issued by the San Mateo County Health Officer and the Governor, the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20, and the CDC’s social distancing guidelines which discourage large public gatherings, this meeting was held via videoconference. It began at 7:00 PM and was accessed online at <https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/99439300925> or by calling 1 (877) 568-4106 for Spanish.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Everardo Rodriguez, Vice Chair Juan Carlos Prado, Council Member Beatriz Cerrillo, Council Member Linda Lopez, Council Member Jennifer Ruiz, Council Member Rosaura Lopez, and Council Member Blair Whitney.

Absent: Francis Santos

Staff Present: Justin Mates, Deputy County Manager; Office of Community Affairs: Emma Gonzalez, Mitzy De La Peña Medina, and Sandra Becerra.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Brooks Esser**—Thanked the North Fair Oaks Council and County Staff for holding this meeting in such an extraordinary time. This effort is truly appreciated by the community.

AGENDA

3. Informational Update COVID-19 by Health Department

<p>Presentation by Srija Srinivasan, Deputy Chief, San Mateo County Health System</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deputy Chief Srinivasan provided an update on current COVID-19 statistics, which are available to the public from the County Health dashboard at: smchealth.org/post/san-mateo-county-covid-19-data and explained how the County is faring relative to the metrics and goals set by the state of California.• Fatalities are looked at closely by age, race, and ethnicity. Also includes data on hospital capacity. As a community, the hospital capacity is still strong.• 31,481 lab tests have been conducted and 6.5% positivity rate. This number has been going down as testing has been made more available.• Our community needs to make progress in the areas of case and hospitalization growth. These areas are closely watched as to guide any further opening.• The metric we looking to exceed is 1,500 tests per day. The Health Department is looking to reach vulnerable and marginalized communities. Through the leadership of the County Manager and Board of Supervisors, additional test sites have been made available to these communities.• San Mateo County has the highest number of older adults than any County in the state, and skilled nurses are essential for caring for our elders. One challenge has been providing PPE for these facilities.
<p>Questions from Council Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council Member Linda Lopez asked what is the status of the Fair Oaks Family Clinic?<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deputy Chief Srinivisan replied that there have been no significant changes to the Fair Oaks Center operations but have moved to a tele-visit model so that patients can receive the services they need while still maintaining a healthy social distance. 80% of visits are delivered via tele-visit but staff remain on-site to provide care for individuals that require in-person attention.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Rodriguez asked are there pockets of infections in the County or is it all spread out? • Deputy Chief Srinivisan replied that the primary concern is on clusters in facilities where the spread could be very quick, such as the congregate care facilities. Universal testing would be required to be able to provide statistics of the geographic location of the distribution of the virus, so the approach that the communicable disease team takes is as we they learn about cases and conduct contact investigations, they identify clusters based on addresses closed together, they try to address this from a community perspective and ensure that they have the necessary resources and support to safely isolate. • Chair Rodriguez asked if the numbers that were shared in the presentation are available on the County website? • Deputy Chief Srinivisan replied that that data is publicly available at smcgov.org
Public Comment	No public comment made.

4. Informational Update COVID-19 by Redwood City School District

Presentation by Nancy Magee, County Superintendent of Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Magee discussed: the roles of the Health Officer and County Superintendent’s role for reopening schools, the County’s pandemic recovery framework for schools, and school planning and reopening. • Social and school modifications are expected until a vaccine is widely available. • Plans for school reopening are made with the entire school year in mind, and these include flexibility to respond if conditions improve or worsen. • The Health Officer is the ultimate authority on the framework and signs Health Orders. The County Superintendent helps schools implement the orders and work together on contact tracing and communication. • The pandemic recovery framework for a safe re-opening of schools includes 4 pillars and a step-by-step approach: 1) health and hygiene; 2) Face coverings; 3) physical distancing; and 4) Limit gatherings. • There have been no fatalities due to COVID-19 for children ages 0-17. The adult population and staff are most at risk.
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<p>Questions from Council Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Rodriguez asked whether there has been any special support or training to teachers who must now teach online? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Magee replied this effort happened overnight and the teachers were great at being flexible and adapting to this new model. Teachers will receive professional development and training over the summer. The SMCOE has partnered with the community colleges district to provide 3 sessions of 2-week courses for teachers in the fundamentals of distance learning. Students were supplied with technological distance learning tools. • Council Member Prado asked: Are there different types of support that SMCOE is providing the elementary schools as opposed to the high schools? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Magee replied that the primary focus was to create the framework which was just released this week. Meetings are now being held with high school superintendents to focus on secondary issues and future meetings with middle school superintendents will be held to identify unique challenges and develop plans for each group. • Chair Rodriguez asked: Has the communication with parents suffered or how has communication taken place? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Magee explained that teachers are in frequent contact with parents. The districts provide weekly written updates (about 3-4 times a week) as well as town hall events where parents can ask questions. • Rosaura Lopez asked will training be provided to the teachers and students on the importance on following the new rules in the framework? Will information be provided in different languages? Many residents in North Fair Oaks speak Spanish. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Magee responded that the best way to be successful with the framework is to educate everyone. A concise summary of the framework will be provided in the upcoming week for community members and will be translated in 4 different languages. Other materials, such as posters and brochures, will be provided on campus. Staff will be trained and short videos will be developed for parents and appropriate curriculum for students. • Council Member Linda Lopez asked “What is the purpose of the June meeting to discuss neighborhood schools? The district
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	<p>decided to close neighborhood schools in North Fair Oaks, what is the plan? Are parents involved in that plan?"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Magee responded that Dr. Baker will likely be joining your next meeting and he can explain the specific plan for Redwood City. As the districts are putting together their planning teams, it involves parents and there is parent representation.
Public Comment	No public comment made.

5. Informational Update: Fair Oaks Community Center COVID-19 Impacts: Rental and Food Assistance

<p>Presentation by Teri Chin, Human Services Manager, Fair Oaks Center</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background of the timeline of the rent relief response: In mid-March, Ms. Chin was approached by the Redwood City Education Foundation Director because they were thinking about what would happen to families as schools started to close. Their board decided they wanted to help families from this school district with food security and housing. By March 23rd, they announced they could put \$150 thousand dollars towards a fund to keep people housed. That same day, the Redwood City Council decided to match that amount and contribute funds from their general fund. That week, the Fair Oaks Center began taking in applications. • On March 24th, the Board of Supervisors passed the eviction moratorium for the months of April and May. • On June 6th, the Redwood City Council allocated an additional funds for this rent assistance program. • From April 6 to May 22, the Fair Oaks Community Center had the highest demand for rent relief assistance of all the core service agencies at 981 cases. • Due to the high demand, the application process moved to an online application and community partners helped the community with the application process. • Over 1,200 applications received from March 23 to May 10th. There is currently a waitlist and those people have been notified, a decision will be made in the next week or two. The Fair Oaks Center is confident that funds will be made available to those that are eligible. The goal is to assist those who do not have access to alternative resources with at least one full month of rent. • Statistics: \$781, 924.56 has been spent on 421 cases through May 21st and 30% of cases are from North Fair Oaks. The average grant amount is \$2,000. About 575 cases are still pending review.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food assistance available at the Fair Oaks Community Center includes: St. Vincent de Paul Homeless Help Desk (food and toiletries); Emergency Food Distribution (daily, 3-5pm); Family Harvest Distribution (2nd Friday of the month, 4-6pm); and Brown Bag Distribution (2nd and 4th Friday of the month, 11am-12pm). • Other food assistance in the community: St. Francis Center (bagged groceries, M-F 10:30am-1:30pm); Salvation Army (bagged groceries, Tues.-Thurs. 9am-12pm); Boys and Girls Club (bagged groceries, Wed.-Thurs. 5:30pm-7pm); Cassia House (bagged groceries, Fri. 10:30am-11:30am).
Questions from Council Members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Member Juan Carlos Prado commended Ms. Chin for the Fair Oaks Community Center's efforts and asked whether food donations could be dropped off at the Fair Oaks Center? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Chin replied that the Fair Oaks Center receives its food donations from the Second Harvest Food bank and recommends that any food donations be made directly to them as they have a warehouse to store these goods.
Public Comment	No public comment made.

6. Presentation: Office of Community Affairs, Immigrant Services, COVID-19 Website

Presentation by Jenifer Llamas, Immigrant Services, Office of Community Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Llamas presented on San Mateo County's COVID-19 Resource Page, available at: cmo.smcgov.org/covid-19-resources or through three separate links on the County's main home page: www.smcgov.org • This website serves as a hub for the available resources for individuals and small businesses in the county and is regularly updated. It can be accessed in 7 different languages. It also includes resources that are available to all individuals, regardless of immigration status. • The community can also call 211 for COVID-19 resources.
Questions from Council Members	None.

Public Comment	No public comment made.
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7. Presentation: Office of Community Affairs, NFO Business Outreach

Presentation by Jose Moreno, Management Analyst	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Moreno highlighted the Office of Community Affairs’ outreach efforts to the small business community in North Fair Oaks that has been impacted by COVID-19. Some of the efforts included: an email and postal mailing to 155 small businesses with a 1-page guide containing information regarding resources, resource websites, SAMCEDA Business Loans and Paycheck Protection Plan, Great Plates Restaurant engagement, and a survey of the Middlefield Road corridor to determine the reasons these have not applied for available loans and support.
Questions from Council Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Rodriguez asked what was the sample size of the businesses that were surveyed? Mr. Moreno replied that this was sent to 96 business owners on Middlefield Road. Chair Rodriguez mentioned that the opportunities for financial support available were confusing, not available in English, and not easy to access. This community needs additional support with completing these applications and it is concerning whether these businesses will survive. Would the County be able to provide further financial assistance or funding for these businesses and provide a training or guide so that these business owners can navigate the application process with more ease? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deputy County Manager Justin Mates shared that these concerns are noted and being considered when identifying additional support. Short and long-term plans for emergency response and financial recovery are underway. Council Member Linda Lopez asked whether the County is in collaboration with community-based organizations currently working with residents and businesses? What is the method for conducting the outreach? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Moreno replied that flyers were recently distributed to each business which included helpful information such as the COVID-19 resource page. If there are any recommended organizations, please notify the County.
Public Comment	No public comment made.

8. Presentation: Outreach Plan Targeting Vulnerable Communities

Presentation by Justin Mates, Deputy County Manager and Emma Gonzalez, Community Affairs Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The relationships and communication channels that have been built to disseminate Census 2020 information are now also being used to inform the public in their primary language about COVID-19 news, resources, and words of reassurance.• Regardless of the method used to deliver the message—door-hangers, billboards, social media—it is important to share key messaging that is consistent and in-language.
Questions from Council Members	None
Public Comment	No public comment made.

9. Reports to the Council.

A. Supervisor's Report

Maggie Cornejo, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Slocum	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• County Manager Mike Callagy, Justin Mates, and Maggie Cornejo met with Sister Christina of the St. Francis Center, El Paisano Market, and a North Fair Oaks resident to better understand what the needs and challenges are during this time.
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B. County Manager's Report

Justin Mates, Deputy County Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The County is currently working on making a free COVID-19 testing site available in North Fair Oaks. Additional information will be provided as soon as it becomes available.
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C. Council Member Reports

None	
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D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

Next Council Meeting:

Thursday, June 25, 2020; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.