

CATEGORY: Administrative

COMMITTEE: Executive/Budget & Finance

PURPOSE: Outdoor Board Retreat with extra COVID protections

BACKGROUND:

On July 13, 2021, the MVCC Board discussed having a Board Retreat since the State and City had fully reopened on June 15, 2021. All 15 directors voted in favor of having a Board Retreat. However, on July 28, 2021, restrictions were reinstated, and the Board Retreat was postponed.

On September 30, 2021, the Mayor issued a new SAFER L.A. superseding all others.¹ The new SAFER L.A. neither prohibits nor limits outdoor activities with the exception of “Outdoor Mega Events”. In fact, under the *LACDPH Best Practice Guidance* section, a portion titled, Encourage Activities that Can Occur Outdoors encourages “governmental entities” to move “operations or activities outdoors”.

Therefore, the Board Retreat would be outside at the Mar Vista Recreation Center with an extra step of roping off the area between the directors and other areas to a minimum of 6 feet. This would doubly ensure the we were in compliance with social distancing.

The last MVCC Retreat was in January 2018. It was a “Leadership Retreat”. An agenda was posted with a schedule of activities; however, it took no action nor placed an agenda item for Public Comment.²

While the date and location of the Board Retreat will be posted, it is not as the previous Board Retreat with scheduled activities nor is it in any sense an NC meeting or designed to “promote more citizen participation in government....”

This event is purely social where the different members have the opportunity to get to know one another. It is to encourage understanding, team work, and promote a more cohesive Board that will be empowered to do the work for Mar Vista. It is a benefit to all.

Board attendance is not a requirement; therefore, the MVCC Bylaws Article V, Section 7 would not apply. This is strictly voluntary and at the sole discretion of each individual director.

Full adherence to the September 30, 2021 *Public Order* guidelines will be enforced with the addition of a roped off area separating the Retreat Area from other areas with a minimum of 6 feet.

THE MOTION:

The MVCC approves moving forward with an outdoor Board Retreat limited to board members with masking and social distance practices required by the Public Order Under City of Los Angeles Emergency Authority with the addition of a roped off area providing a minimum of 6 feet between the area for Retreat Area and other areas.

¹ <https://tinyurl.com/7r4xjmzd>

² <https://www.marvista.org/ncfiles/viewCommitteeFile/19046>

City of Los Angeles

ERIC GARCETTI

MAYOR

Public Order Under City of Los Angeles Emergency Authority

Issue Date: September 30, 2021

Subject: SAFER L.A.

On June 15, 2021, California fully reopened the economy, and the State terminated the restrictions on businesses and activities in its Blueprint for a Safer Economy. Epidemiologic evidence demonstrates that since June 15, 2021, the rate of community transmission of COVID-19 here in Los Angeles has increased from low to high. On September 28, 2021, Los Angeles County reported 1,147 new cases. As of September 21, 2021, and although the test and hospitalizations have declined or appear to be stable, the County is reporting a 7-day daily average case rate of 12.9 cases per 100,000 people. Based upon federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicators and thresholds, this means that community transmission of COVID-19 within Los Angeles County is now considered High and highly likely to increase during the coming weeks as we start to move into the winter months when respiratory viruses, like influenza and SARS-CoV-2, have spread more easily.

On July 28, 2021, the CDC and the California Department of Public Health each issued new guidance validating the universal indoor masking requirements of this Order. The CDC's Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated¹ People advises that "preliminary evidence suggests that fully vaccinated people who are infected with the Delta variant can spread the virus to others" and therefore recommends that fully vaccinated people wear a mask in public indoor settings in geographic areas of Substantial or High transmission. In addition, the State Public Health Officer recommends universal masking regardless of vaccination status, in public indoor settings across California.

[Section between does not speak to outdoor settings.]

...In the absence of physical distancing requirements for the public and capacity limits for indoor and outdoor settings, unvaccinated and partially vaccinated persons are more likely to get infected and spread the virus, which is transmitted through the air and concentrates in indoor settings.

[Section between does not speak to outdoor settings.]

Under the provisions of Section 231(i) of the Los Angeles City Charter and Chapter 3, Section 8.27 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, I hereby declare that the ***Safer L.A. Order, dated September 22, 2021, is withdrawn and superseded by this Order***, which is necessary for the protection of life and property in the City of Los Angeles and is effective on Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 11:59 PM:

1. All persons living within the City of Los Angeles should continue to practice required and recommended COVID-19 infection control measures at all times and when among other persons when in community, work, social or school settings, especially when multiple unvaccinated persons from different households may be present and in close contact with each other, especially when in indoor or crowded outdoor settings.

2. Face Masks

All individuals must follow the requirements included in this Order, the LACDPH Health Officer Order (dated September 28, 2021) and the July 28, 2021 Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings issued by the California Department of Public Health. These requirements are aligned with the July 28, 2021 recommendations issued by the CDC. The CDC recommendations provide information about both indoor and higher risk settings where masks are required or recommended to prevent transmission to:

- Persons with a higher risk of infection (e.g., unvaccinated or immunocompromised persons),
- Persons with prolonged, cumulative exposures (e.g., workers), or
- Persons whose vaccination status is unknown.

When people wear a mask correctly, they protect others as well as themselves. Consistent and correct mask use is especially important indoors and outdoors when in close contact with (less than six feet from) others who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or whose vaccination status is unknown.

[Sections between do not speak to outdoor settings beyond, "Outdoor Mega Events".]

4. LACDPH Best Practice Guidance.

- a. All individuals and Businesses are strongly urged to follow the LACDPH Best Practice Guidance, containing health and safety recommendations for COVID19.
- b. Considerations for Persons at Higher Risk for Negative Health Outcomes: People at risk for severe illness or death from with COVID-19 - such as unvaccinated older adults and unvaccinated individuals with health risks - and members of their household, should defer participating in activities with other people outside their household where taking protective measures, including wearing face masks and social distancing, may not occur or will be difficult, especially indoors or in crowded spaces. For those who are not yet fully vaccinated, staying home or choosing outdoor activities as much as possible with physical distancing from other households whose vaccination status is unknown is the best way to prevent the risk of COVID-19 transmission.
- c. Encourage Activities that Can Occur Outdoors. All Businesses and governmental entities are urged to consider moving operations or activities outdoors, where feasible and to the extent allowed by local law and permitting requirements, because there is generally less risk of COVID-19 transmission outdoors as opposed to indoors.

[Sections after do not speak to outdoor settings beyond, "Outdoor Mega Events".]

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