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## CITY OF PACIFICA

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# PRESS RELEASE

November 16, 2020

## San Mateo County Regresses to Tier 2 – “Substantial Risk”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Pacifica, CA) – Effective tomorrow, San Mateo County falls back to the Red Tier 2 of the state’s [COVID-19 reopening plan](#), re-instituting certain restrictions on some activities.

Following an increase in coronavirus cases, the state of California moved San Mateo County back from orange Tier 3 where the risk level from the virus is considered “moderate” to “substantial” under the red Tier 2. San Mateo County’s shift from the orange to the red tier is due to the increase in the county’s adjusted case rate, which is now 5.7 daily new cases per 100,000 population. That’s more than double the adjusted case rate of 2.2 per 100,000 population from the November 9 tier determination.

*“Although San Mateo County is doing better than many counties across the state, falling back to the Red Tier is evidence of how challenging this virus remains, and how important it is to wear your mask and follow all the safety guidelines,” said Pacifica Mayor Deirdre Martin. “Headed into the holidays, it is especially critical for everyone to do their part to help minimize this rise in cases.”*

At a news conference today, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced numerous counties across California have regressed due to rising case counts and other metrics. He cautioned that further restrictions may be implemented – including a curfew -- if case counts do not come down.

To slow the spread of the virus, all businesses, organizations, child care facilities, schools and other operations that are allowed to open under the state’s COVID-19 blueprint must follow [industry-specific health guidelines](#) and adhere to local health orders that mandate face coverings and social distancing. The following is a brief outline of restrictions that take effect Tuesday, November 17 in San Mateo County:

- **Dining:** Indoor dining is limited to 25 percent of capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer. Outdoor dining where social distancing is in place, takeout and delivery are still allowed.
- **Places of Worship:** Places of worship can open indoors with maximum 25 percent capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer.

- **Indoor shopping, Gyms, Movie Theaters, Salons:** Indoor shopping malls can operate at 50 percent capacity, movie theaters at 25 percent capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer, indoor gyms at 10 percent capacity and hair salons and barbershops can continue to operate with restrictions.
- **Schools:** The county's transition back to the red Tier 2 does not impact the operation of schools. Because they have been following the [Pandemic Recovery Framework](#), which involves layers of safety measures, schools in the county that have students back on campus for instruction and other activities are not experiencing outbreaks of COVID-19 and will continue to serve students on campus.
- **Family Entertainment Centers and Playgrounds:** Family entertainment centers can open outdoors with modifications for activities like kart racing, mini golf and batting cages. Outdoor playgrounds can open with modifications.

See the state's [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#) for details by business sector and activity.

See San Mateo County Health's website for [Guidance on Gatherings and Staying Safe During the Holidays](#)

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