



City of San Leandro

Civic Center
835 East 14th Street
San Leandro, California

Minutes

Disaster Council

Thursday, September 16, 2021

2:00 PM

Access the meeting remotely: Use this URL
<https://zoom.us/j/586541650>

Special Meeting

The Disaster Council conducted this meeting in accordance with the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m.

1.A. Roll Call

Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter
Vice Mayor Victor Aguilar Jr.
Councilmember Ballew
San Leandro Police Department
Alameda County Fire Department
San Leandro School District
San Lorenzo School District
Alameda County Office of Emergency Services
Alameda County Health Services
California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)
CalTrans
American Red Cross
PG&E
EBCE
EBMUD
AT&T
San Leandro Chamber of Commerce
San Leandro Hospital
Kaiser Hospital
Kindred Hospital
San Leandro ARES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter

*Vice Mayor Victor Aguilar, Jr.
Councilmember Pete Ballew
Alameda County Fire Department – Deputy Chief E. Moore, L. Casimere
SLUSD – R. Medeiros, L. Sheridan
American Red Cross – R. Fateman
Kaiser Hospital – A. Apodaca
San Leandro Hospital – S. Williams
PG&E – J. Walsh*

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

*Fran Robustelli – City Manager
Janelle Cameron – Assistant City Manager
Eric Engelbart – Deputy City Manager
Leticia I. Miguel – City Clerk
Shandyn Pierce – City Attorney
Jeanette Dong – RHS Director
Hoi-Fei Mok – Sustainability Manager
Keith Cooke – E&T Director
Brian Simons – Library Director
Harry Miranda – IT
Police Chief Pridgen
Police LT Morgan
Police SGT Walton
Police SGT Gill
Catrina Christian – Emergency Services Specialist*

FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS and OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

None available

1.B. Announcements

Members of the Disaster Council introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

2.A. City of San Leandro response to COVID-19

- San Leandro City Council

Mayor Cutter reported that the Council is working employee groups and companies to get to the goals we want and are asking for an employee vaccination policies to ensure consistency within the city, which will also include testing sites for employees who are not vaccinated.

Vice Mayor Aguilar shared that there is a concern about the potential increase in cases among the unvaccinated, especially with numbers rising in other states. We can encourage people to get vaccinated so we can protect our community.

Councilmember Ballew mentioned that he supports the vaccine to protect all and that it is not a political thing. He said that he was not sure why more employees are not vaccinated, especially since it is about protecting vulnerable groups from getting sick.

2.B. Alameda County

- Office of Emergency Services
- Alameda County Fire Department
- Alameda Public Health Department

Alameda County OES was not able to be on the call but did provide a written statement. The summer surge is improving, though we should be prepared for another wave in the late fall or winter. The daily case rate is at 15 per 100,000, with an average of about 200 cases reported daily and most of the new Alameda County cases are among the unvaccinated. The case rates are highest for ages 18 to 40 and among those age 5-11 though case rates are now improving in all age groups. Test positivity is 3% overall. Hospitalizations have improved, though across the state ICUs are strained. Over 1 million residents, or 76%, over 12 are fully vaccinated. An "additional dose" refers to a third dose of Moderna or Pfizer and is currently authorized only for fully vaccinated people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised. A "booster" refers to a third dose of Moderna or Pfizer, or a second dose of J&J. CDC will be putting out formal guidance by the end of the month and may be limited to recommending boosters only for certain groups.

ACPHD Schools Team has been working with education partners with implementing state guidance for safety protocols in order to return to in person learning, as well as working with the County Office of Education to plan for vaccine clinics.

The County was able to fill four mutual aid requests for law enforcement for the Dixie and Monument fires, and Plumas and Tulare counties. The County also filled four (4) requests for animal control officers for the Caldor Fire.

Alameda County Fire Department (ACFD) reported in August, they experienced a spike in employee cases (15), which was higher than in the past, but they have gotten through it and continue to hold the staffing pattern. ACFD managed to send personnel to Dixie and the Caldor fire and most are on their way home. There have been no significant fires locally and no PSPS, but ACFD is ready to engage if there is a need.

2.C. City of San Leandro

- San Leandro City Manager
- San Leandro Police
- Other City Departments

City Manager Robustelli reported that City Hall remains in a hybrid opening setting due to the recent delta variant outbreak and is taking a wait and see approach" while monitoring the County's numbers. The City is providing remote and in person services to the public by appointment only.

Thank you to City Health who is assisting with onsite testing. We are piloting a two days a week testing starting very early in the morning and sometimes later hours, to accommodate shift changes. Right now, we estimate there are about 200 unvaccinated employees.

Janelle Cameron, the new Assistant City Manager, was introduced. She is excited to be here and to be a part of the Disaster Council.

San Leandro Police reported that within the City, there have been 6,998 COVID cases.

The City will participate in the Great Shakeout on October 21st for the first time in two

years, which included a "drop, cover, hold on" drill and City Hall (including SLUSD staff), Marina Community Center, and Water Pollution Control Plant staff will participate in an evacuation drill right after. Catrina has been collaborating with the Main Library to develop a preparedness display, provide outreach, and are asking for public participation during the Great Shakeout drill. This came from a request by Brian Simons, the new Library director, who asked if we could collaborate to patrons safe.

Several members of the SLPD participated in the SWAT fitness challenge, a 2-day event, with the 1st day focusing on scenarios and working with other agencies. 12 teams competed. Ed Bell, our Animal Control officer, went to the Caldor Fire for Animal Control mutual aid. He learned a lot and will be included in the City's animals in disasters annex.

We welcomed Chief Pridgen who was just sworn. He is privileged to be part of the team and looks forward to servicing the City and is excited to see what we can do together.

Brian Simons, the new Library Director was introduced. He has a lot of new ideas that will help to shape the direction that Library Services will be taking. He works forward to serving San Leandro.

2.D. Healthcare Services

- Hospitals
- Davis Street Family Resource Center
- Red Cross
- SL Elder Care Alliance

Kaiser Hospital reported that they are starting to see the numbers from summer surge go down and they are gearing up for flu season and are starting flu clinics during the week. They are planning several clinics within San Leandro. Kaiser offered to set up an "Ask the Doc" session, where a physician can address the vaccination hesitancy and to answer any questions employees may have.

San Leandro Hospital reported that they continue to offer vaccinations and are doing testing on employees. Patients who come in and are not vaccinated are being offered the vaccine. The executive team, James Jackson and Mark Fratzke, have launched a campaign encouraging people to become vaccinated and to debunk some of the misinformation.

Alameda Health Systems is current preparing for an active shooter drill in October. Staff will be trained to run, hide, fight. Even though we are focused on the pandemic, there are still so many other emergencies that we need to be prepared for in order to respond to them.

Red Cross reported that they are moving the offices to the former Boy Scout offices in San Leandro and will include consolidating the operations from multiple locations. On October 24th, at Thrasher Park, Red Cross will be holding the first in person volunteer meeting in a year and half. Red Cross has tried to keep people from going to other parts of the country, in order to keep staff available for events in California.

2.E. School Districts

- San Leandro
- San Lorenzo

San Leandro Unified reported that they are in the 5th week of the school year and things are going well but challenging because they are continuously modifying protocols to address the healthcare guidance changes to ensure the safety of students and staff. They have been able to provide many of the same programs that were previously in place within the District, with modifications. The District has an agreement with the Native American Health Center to offer testing at the Barbara E. Lee Center 4 days a week, and the District is in the process of hiring staff. The District is also working with the Alameda County Office of Education to have additional pop-up clinics at the secondary schools. The District is looking to develop a modified quarantine program for students who were exposed while at school, which would allow students to remain in class, as long as they submit to 2x week testing and are asymptomatic. With 900 employees in district, all but 46 are fully vaccinated.

San Lorenzo Unified was not available.

2.F. Utilities

- PG&E
- EBCE
- EBMUD

PG&E reported that they have been engaged with the fires, including the Dixie and Caldor, and have been providing mutual to utilities that have been impacted. It looks like the company's equipment may have started the Dixie fire. They are using new technology, an early trip technology to shut the power off, to reduce fires within Alameda and other counties around the state. They are still experimenting and fine tuning the system in multiple areas, including in the Santa Cruz Mountains where multiple trips are causing power outages.

PG&E has had great success during fires is pre-treating equipment with safety infrastructure safety teams, which includes 40 small engines and staffed by firefighters. They are assigned to fires and try to get in front of the fire to pre-treat equipment with retardant and to assist with removal of fuel around the poles, which allow the infrastructure to survive and speed up repopulation. This has been very successful program, and the company president wants to expand it. PG&E is also pre-treating equipment with retardant on the fuels around the infrastructure where there is no fire right now, but there is a chance in the future and when it comes to Alameda County, the public will have input on where this will occur.

PG&E is monitoring a possible PSPS event, though meteorologists do not think there will any outage sustaining winds in Alameda County, but weather could change.

EBCE and EBMUD were not available.

2.G. Other Agencies within the City

- Chamber of Commerce
- Faith Based Organizations
- Building Futures with Women and Children
- San Leandro ARES

No organizations were available for report

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were received

4. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.