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DAVIS DEMOCRATIC CLUB

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Looking out for Davis by Mayor Gloria Partida



Because the City of Davis' responsibility to its citizens' wellbeing covers multiple areas, our response to the COVID crisis has been multipronged. The top priority has been to keep everyone safe. To that end the City of Davis has carefully coordinated with the Yolo County health office and the State. While information and conditions have changed rapidly, wearing a **mask**, maintaining social **distancing**, getting regular **testing**, **avoiding gatherings** and **staying at home** are always the best course of action.

To combat the spread of COVID-19, the best tool to emerge for the City of Davis is the Healthy Davis Together program. This partnership between UC Davis, the City of Davis and local community partners provides **free** saliva-based **testing** to all who live or work in Davis. It provides quarantine services, education, and support for local businesses in the form of public health ambassadors, free personal protective equipment, grants, and gift card incentives. Businesses who commit to uphold baseline safe practices can sign up and be recognized as Business Partners (<https://healthydavistogether.org/partners/business-partners/>).

Recently the Healthy Davis Together initiative began giving away **free** boxes of disposal, non-surgical **masks** to the Davis community every Thursday from 12 Noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Davis Police Department, 2600 Fifth St (corner of Fifth Street and Cantrill Drive). Information is at <https://healthydavistogether.org/>

Everyone can help stop the spread of COVID-19. **Testing regularly is vital.** In a span of two weeks, over **500 people** in the community who **had no idea** they were **carrying** the **COVID-19** virus were identified through testing. This opportunity for free regular testing, can mean the saving of hundreds of people's lives. It can also be the difference between a rapid or slow recovery for the economy of our city, the full restoration of our children's education and the security of income and housing.

To help alleviate the economic burden the virus has placed on individuals and businesses, the City has waived penalties for late payment of city utility bills as a COVID-19 relief measure. It continues to refer residents that need eviction assistance to agencies such as Legal Services of Northern California (LSNC), Yolo County Housing and encourages tenants who are facing housing issues to explore options available locally and statewide. We have passed local renter support initiatives such as rental payment assistance in partnership with Yolo County, and a moratorium on residential and commercial evictions.

To support our local business community The City of Davis has distributed almost a million dollars of funding to help with PPE and infrastructure. The Open-Air Davis Program has allowed many businesses to continue operating outside using public outdoor areas. This endeavor is helped by new no-fee, expedited, temporary-use permits (TUP). These permits allow businesses to timely meet COVID-19 social distancing requirements.

The City of Davis acted quickly to anticipate the certain reduction of revenue. We took steps to reduce spending on personnel by asking employees to accept furlough days and halted non-critical public works projects. We are aggressively seeking opportunities for grant funding and CARES Act support. We continue to monitor our budget and while we are feeling the pinch, we are further ahead than projected.

In closing, I want to remind everyone that while we are all in this together, we do not all have the same resources to get through. Please donate as you can to the many nonprofits doing work to support the most vulnerable in our community.

City of Davis COVID information can be found at <https://www.cityofdavis.org/city-hall/emergency-information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information>. Follow City of Davis on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofDavis> or Twitter at: <https://twitter.com/CityofDavis>

Thank you,

Democratic News

THE COVID CRISIS - LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

by **Jim Provenza, Chair, Yolo County Board of Supervisors**



One axiom of politics and government is that to be successful you should expect and be prepared to respond to the unexpected. Last January, COVID-19 was barely on anyone's radar and the Board of Supervisors was expecting a calm year working to implement our strategic plan. While health was part of that plan, no one could have foreseen what happened next. By mid-March, Yolo County was locked down and laser focused on the COVID-19 pandemic.

In early March 2020, we experienced our first COVID-19 case when a local pharmacist was diagnosed with the virus. Yolo County responded quickly, becoming one of the first counties in the state to issue a stay-at-home order and closing businesses defined by the federal government to be "non-essential."

Our Office of Emergency Services sprung into action and county employees in other jobs throughout the county were assigned to help in an all-hands-on-deck response to the crisis. Other projects were placed on hold as the COVID-19 response became our number one priority.

As quickly as businesses were closed, we were focused on how to re-open those that could do so safely and on the transition to pick-up and home delivery for others. It was also necessary to convince our residents to distance, avoid large gatherings, wear face coverings, and show-up for testing.

I often found myself working 12-hour days, seven day a week helping constituents and businesses impacted by the crisis. We aggressively sought and obtained financial assistance from the state and federal government and private and community fundraising for individuals and businesses in need. We also worked creatively to address some of the unintended consequences of state and local health orders.

In the coming year, our priority will be to assure that all of our residents receive a vaccination as soon as possible. Health care organizations, such as Sutter and Dignity Health, are likely to receive the bulk of the vaccines and will be initially focusing upon the age 75-plus population and then those age 65-plus.

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COVID (continued from p 2)

After vaccinating health workers, our county vaccination clinics will prioritize hard-to-reach populations, such as those without doctors and populations who are particularly vulnerable. Farm workers and minority populations are of particular concern.

Our biggest problem is that there is simply not enough vaccine. This is true in all state and local jurisdictions. I have faith that President Biden's plan will help to get us over this hurdle.

It is also essential that there be clear information as to where and when our residents can receive their vaccinations. We are working with health providers to make this happen.

Eventually all county residents who want to be vaccinated will be vaccinated. In the meantime, we are asking that all residents (including those already vaccinated) continue to distance, avoid gatherings, wear face coverings, and receive frequent testing. There is a light at the end of this long tunnel, and we will continue to do our best to assure that we arrive there

Club Membership Report

by Saira Delgado Membership Chair

DDC Members, thank you

for your continued support of the club during these unprecedented times. 2020 was historic in many ways!

In recognition of our outstanding sponsors, we include on our donor list our 2020 donors along those who have already renewed their membership for 2021; please take a moment to read the

names on this extended list. If you were not able to renew during this challenging year, we hope you can join us again in 2021. For those who kindly contributed in 2020, we hope to count on your generosity once again! We appreciate your support, and I hope you are all staying safe and well.

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