

MOTION

In March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic. On March 4, 2020, as COVID-19 cases were increasing, the City and County of Los Angeles both issued a Declaration of Local Emergency. Even though cases are down from the height of the pandemic, the City has continued to renew its Declaration of Local Emergency because COVID-19 continues to be a threat to public health. It is the duty of the City of Los Angeles to pursue a safe and healthy city, consistent with COVID-19 regulations, to protect its residents and the public at large as the City and County reopen.

As a result of the delta variant, COVID-19 cases saw a steady spike in Los Angeles County since the beginning of June. In July, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that new cases are up by nearly 70% in just a week and hospitalizations are up by nearly 36%. According to an NPR report, the delta strain appears to be about 225% more transmissible than the original SARS-CoV-2 strains. A study from China found that people who are infected with delta have — on average — about 1,000 times more copies of the virus in their respiratory tracts than those infected with the original strain, and are infectious earlier in the course of their illness. It spreads about two to three times faster than the original version of the virus, and it's currently dominating the outbreak in the United States, responsible for more than 80% of COVID cases.

The Centers for Disease Control, the California Department of Public Health, and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health have all found that COVID-19 continues to pose a risk to public health, especially to individuals who are not fully vaccinated, and safety measures continue to be necessary in order to reduce the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths. To date, there have been 1,307,970 cases of COVID-19 and 24,704 deaths in LA County. Nationally, new cases have reached an average of about 86,000 cases a day, a jump from about 13,000 daily cases a month ago.

As of August 2, 2021, 71.7% of LA County residents 16 and older have been vaccinated with at least one dose. Unvaccinated individuals are at greater risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19 making themselves and their communities vulnerable. In addition, they pose a threat to children under 12 years of age who are not qualified to receive a vaccine. Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent transmission and limit COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the City Council instruct the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance that would require eligible individuals to have received at least one dose of vaccination to enter indoor spaces, including but not limited to, restaurants, bars, retail establishments, fitness centers, spas, and entertainment centers such as stadiums, concert venues, and movie theaters.

I FURTHER MOVE, that the Council instruct the Community Investment for Families Department to report back immediately on how to expand the Vax UP LA campaign and what resources would be necessary for a citywide outreach and education program on the COVID-19 vaccines.

I FURTHER MOVE, that the Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, in coordination with all relevant City departments, report back immediately with an implementation strategy.

I FURTHER MOVE, that the Council instruct the City Attorney to report back on a course of action for compliance with the ordinance.

AUG 04 2021

PRESENTED BY:

Nury Martinez
NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District

PRESENTED BY:

Mitch O'Farrell
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Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY: _____

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W. Kelly

ORIGINAL