

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
September 10, 2020**

APPROVED

COMMISSIONERS

Patrick T. Dowling, M.D., M.P.H., Chairperson *
 Kelly Colopy, M.P.P., **Vice-Chair ***
 Alina Dorian, Ph.D. *
 Jean G. Champommier, Ph.D.*
 Crystal D. Crawford, J.D.*
 Diego Rodrigues*

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director of Public Health *
 Dr. Muntu Davis, Health Officer **

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION ADVISORS

Megan McClaire, Chief of Staff *
 Dawna Treece, PH Commission Liaison*
***Present **Excused ***Absent**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
<u>I.</u> <u>Call to Order</u>	<i>The meeting was called to order at 11:09 a.m. by Chair Dowling, at the Central Public Health Center.</i>	<i>Information only.</i>
<u>II.</u> <u>Announcements and Introductions</u>	The Commissioners, DPH staff, and guests introduced themselves. March and June meeting minutes	<i>Information only.</i> <i>Deferred until next meeting.</i>
<u>III.</u> <u>Public Health Report</u>	Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director and Ms. Megan McClaire, Acting Chief Deputy Director, provided the Commission with with Public Health reports and COVID updates since our last meeting on September 10, 2020. Dr. Ferrer’s Report The Board, Public Health staff and Commission members have shown great support during this time in responding to COVID-19. It has been a challenge to not have all the information needed to help contain the deadly virus. Staff have been deployed to new duties to help save lives throughout the County. The Public Health staff have gone above and beyond to make sure team members as well as homeless shelters received needed PPE.	

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There was an explosion of cases in July that had a direct correlation with July 4th activities. We remain optimistic for the upcoming Labor Day holiday and hope not to see the same trend. Public Health had experienced some setbacks and received a fair amount of critique and criticism from the media, but this is because of the lack of good information, which resulted in not responding efficiently.

One of Public Health's biggest priorities is to get kids back to school. The goal is to reopen schools so that they can provide services for their highest need, highest risk students. The plan is for Schools to bring up to 10% of their student body back to the campus at any given time. Schools will need to adhere to Public Health's protocols, which require cohorting of students and teachers, infection control and distancing. This is vital to those students that are unable to get the special services they need that cannot be obtained through virtual instruction. The priority is for students who have IEPs and English Learners. Every school has an outbreak management plan in place. Public Health has trained all LAUSD nurses on managing cases, outbreaks and testing. Public Health will soon begin training the nurses in the LACOE District and to support private schools with opportunities for training. It will take 6-8 weeks to implement and assess the reopenings at the schools. This will allow enough time on the implementation to be able to do a good assessment on the implications of reopening in terms of cases, outbreaks, transmission and the ability of schools to manage cases and outbreaks.

The State is now using a tier system based on its test positivity and case rate. Tier one being counties that have widespread community transmission to tier four being communities/counties with minimal community transmission. LAC is at Tier 3 (9-10 cases). LAC is one of 33 counties in tier 1 because of our daily average case rate and daily average test positive rate. If one of the two metrics is higher than the other, the state will assign the county the tier with the highest rating. LAC's daily average test positive rate is 4%, which is moderate transmission. Reopening depends on tier assignment. At this time, LAC has not opened indoor shopping malls or card rooms

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and not offering a waiver program. We are remaining more restrictive because we are relying on our own data.

LAC has 13,000 licensed hair salons within its jurisdiction. It takes about 4 weeks for sectors to fully comply with-protocols. Public Health needs to provide enough support for implementation and modifications and to make sure we have the capacity to cover the reopening of businesses.

There is a need to reduce community transmission rate, and preparing for influenza season as well. Active planning and getting people vaccinated. Peak cases of flu season end of December and January. Using this fall to avoid overwhelming the healthcare system.

COVID has impacted some communities more than others. Highly impacted communities for COVID-19 remain the same communities that have seen huge inequities and health outcomes such as Native Americans, Blacks, Latinx, Pacific Islanders, low income and essential workers. Public Health focused on 3 areas to improve access to treatment, support for isolation and quarantine, and protecting workers. Business owners and operators should be implementing the protocols. These directives are legally binding but compliance is hard.

DPH is heavily relying on protocols to keep workers safe. We have separate phone lines for union and labor partners to call in to complain. These were set up with Board leadership Public Health Councils to help those in non-unionized businesses. Contracted with labor support centers to help support in areas where businesses are in noncompliance. Public Health is sending out millions of dollars to community based partners in contracts to help with providing support for outreach, education, quarantine, promotoras and community health workers. Strategies will address the those that lack support for treatment, isolation and quarantine and will help protect workers.

The biggest issue right now is the non-reporting when there are three or more cases at a plant. Public Health is notified only when the cases are higher. Farmer Johns investigation is still open. There

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	<p>needs to be 14 days without any cases in order to close an investigation.</p> <p>Public Health gets 2000 complaints a week on average. We are not just complaint driven, but are doing proactive investigation to targeted industries such as the hair salons to ensure businesses are in compliance.</p> <p>Data Tranparency We feel it is our obligation to disseminate this information so that people can access and understand the information in order to make their best informative decision. For daily updates, data trends and other COVID-19 information, visit Public Health’s website:</p> <p>publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/</p>	
<p><u>IV.</u> <u>Presentation:</u></p>	<p>PRESENTATION OVERVIEW</p>	
<p><u>V.</u> <u>New Business</u></p>	<p><u>Transitioning Commissioner:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jean Champommier, Ph.D.</p>	

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	<p>Dr. Champommier has officically retired from the Public Health Commssion as of August 2020. He has provided service since 1977 in the SD1 community.</p> <p><u>Introduction of new Commissioner:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Diego H. Rodrigues, MA, LMFT</p> <p>Diego H. Rodrigues has been appointed the new Commissioner for SD1 on September 1, 2020. He is also Vice-President of Alma.</p> <p><u>Special Acknowdgement:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Commissioner Crystal Crawford, has been appointed as the new president of the Western Center of Law and Poverty.</p>	
<p><u>VI. Unfinished Business</u></p>	<p>March and June minutes</p>	<p>Approval of minutes deferred to next meeting.</p>
<p><u>VII. Public Comment</u></p>	<p>A question/concern was raised by a member of the public regarding the positivity case rate in LA County jails. All newly admissions to the jails are tested, but results tend to take 48-72 hours. This delay creates a problem in isolating potentially affected, non-symptomatic individuals. Is there a way to provide rapid testing for new jail admissions?</p>	<p>Member of the public was informed and agreed that her question would be forwarded and addressed by a Public Health expert after the meeting.</p>

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<p><u>VIII.</u> <u>Adjournment</u></p>	<p><i>MOTION: ADJOURN THE MEETING</i></p> <p><i>The PHC meeting adjourned at approximately 12:32 p.m.</i></p>	<p><i>Commission Dowling called a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with Vice-Chair Colopy and seconded by Commissioner Dorian. All in favor.</i></p>
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