L.A. County Modifies Health Order to Allow Indoor Masking for Fully Vaccinated

As the county continues to experience reduced COVID-19 spread, Public Health has modified the Health Officer Order to allow establishments, businesses, and venues verifying vaccination status to offer optional masking for fully vaccinated individuals. The modified Health Officer Order went into effect at 12:01 am on Friday, February 25.

Given lower hospital admissions and the effectiveness of the vaccines in reducing severe illness, changes have been made in the Health Officer Order that allow establishments, businesses, or venues two options for removing masking requirements for fully vaccinated individuals.

Option 1: Establishments, businesses, or venues that want to allow fully vaccinated customers and workers to unmask while indoors must:

- Verify that 100% of customers (5 and older) and workers prior to, or upon, entry to indoor spaces:
  - Provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, or
  - Provide proof of a recent negative COVID-19 viral test result. Tests for customers must have been taken within two days of entry if a PCR test, or one day if an antigen test. Employees will be allowed to submit a negative test result every three days.

Those who are not fully vaccinated or do not show proof of vaccination are required to provide a negative test, and continue wearing a well-fitting mask while indoors (as required by the state), except when actively eating or drinking.

Option 2: Establishments, businesses, or venues that want to allow their fully vaccinated customers to unmask indoors while all onsite workers remain masked, must:

- Verify that 100% of customers (5 and older) prior to, or upon, entry to indoor spaces:
  - Provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, or
  - Provide proof of a recent negative COVID-19 viral test result. Tests for customers must have been taken within two days of entry if a PCR test, or one day if an antigen test.

- Adhere to the following regarding customers and masking: Fully vaccinated customers may be unmasked in the indoor setting. Customers that are not fully vaccinated must continue to wear a well-fitting mask while indoors (as required by the state), except when actively eating or drinking.

Any individual showing proof of full vaccination prior to entering can still choose to wear a mask indoors.

For more information or for posters and signage regarding business requirements related to COVID-19, visit http://publichealth.lacounty.gov.

L.A. County Public Health will align school masking measures with the state and shift to strongly recommending indoor masking requirements at childcare sites and K-12 schools beginning March 12. School districts may continue to require masking at schools and during school activities and are encouraged to consult with teachers, staff, parents and students as they consider the appropriate safety protections for their school community, recognizing that many individuals may want to continue additional protections.

Visit Bellflower Unified School District’s website for district info and updates on student masking policies at www.busd.k12.ca.us.

Walk-up COVID-19 testing is available outside the Brakensiek library no appointment needed, Monday-Saturday from 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. For more info visit: covid19.lacounty.gov/testing
In 2016, the State of California adopted Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383), which requires all cities in California to reduce organic waste sent to landfills by 75% by January 1, 2025. In accordance with this law, all jurisdictions must provide organic waste collection services to all residential and commercial customers by January 1, 2022, to ensure organic material is diverted from the landfills. Organic waste includes food scraps and green waste, such as landscaping and pruning waste.

On January 1, 2022, CR&R Environmental Services together with the City of Bellflower launched a new Organics Recycling Program. Single-family customers with cart service may now place food scraps in addition to yard waste in the green waste container. Compostable bags are optional and available at local retailers, but other types of bags are not accepted. A new organics decal will be placed on the lid of green waste containers outlining acceptable materials. The collected organic material will be delivered to one of CR&R’s compost facilities where it will be converted to compost. This new expanded collection program will divert organic material away from the landfill.

As of January 1, 2022, all businesses and multi-family dwellings are also required by State regulations to arrange for ongoing recycling and organic waste recycling services. This applies to all commercial businesses regardless of service levels and applies to all multi-family dwellings. To establish these required recycling services now, contact CR&R Services at bellflower-recycles@crrmail.com or call 562-944-4716.

By participating in the program, you are helping California reach targeted goals to reduce short-lived climate pollutant emissions.

For more info on SB 1383 and other State requirements, please visit www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp.

Don’t Forget Your Last Minute Purchases on BuyBellflower.com Digital Gift Card Program

Support Bellflower businesses by purchasing digital gift cards on www.buybellflower.com. These digital gift cards provide a 20-25% discount through March 31, 2022. These e-gifts can be purchased now and redeemed at a later date.

For the past year, the Buy Bellflower campaign has provided a free gift card sales platform to any participating local businesses in Bellflower. This program was created to support small businesses that were hard-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding will soon expire and this program will end on March 31, 2022. For more info call (562) 804-1424 ext. 2249.

**PARTICIPATING MERCHANTS:**
- Ace Vacuums Inc.
- Fronk’s Restaurant
- Luxe Beauty & Wellness Boutique
- Admiral Pest Control
- Furniture Mo-Pedic Mattress Gallery
- MFK By Aysee Modern Filipino Kitchen
- Affordable Openers
- Golden Flower Inc. (Golden Corral)
- My CBD Hub, Bellflower Diner
- Hambone’s Bar & Grill
- Nacho’s Mexican Food Restaurant
- Bless Tires Inc.
- Heavenly Beauty Supply
- Nice Guy Eddie’s, Doughboys Surplus
- Holland International Market
- O’Neal & Associates LLC.
- Eddie’s Flower Shop #2, IDC Embroidery
- One Stop Paint Shop Inc.
- Eddie’s Tire City
- IronFire Workspaces, Postres Cafe
- Fablane Jewels, KP Makeup Studio
- Fantasy Cakes, Leo & Son Garage
- RailMaster Hobbies Inc.
- Ray-A-Motive, Yummi Yummi Bionicos
- Sign Imaging, Sold Body Care
- Solid Coffee Roasters, Stiches In Time
- Stormyweather Banks Inc.
- The Guild House, The Posh Passport
- Tropicali Cafe, VA’s Beauty Lounge
New Businesses Open

February 24th, Bellflower celebrated GFit Kickboxing with a Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Owner Michael Gutierrez is eager to share his passion with his members and help them achieve their health and fitness goals. GFit offers a variety of high energy classes for all ages 5+ years and up. Stop by for a tour and learn about their Grand Opening membership specials. GFit Kickboxing is located at 10410 Rosecrans Ave, Bellflower (in the former KMart center). For more info visit gfitkickboxing.com.

February 21st Evertable opened for business at 9747 Alondra Blvd. and is now offering a special March promotion: Buy 1 meal, get one free - Mention code BELLCity at checkout to redeem the offer. Offer valid one per person through 3/31/2022. Evertable specializes in individually packaged, chef-prepared nutritious food i.e. salads, hot plates, wraps & breakfast items, ranging from $6-$9. (everytable.com)

Visit website for full job descriptions
The Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) has received reports of a telephone scam targeting consumers. Callers are utilizing illegal “spoofing” techniques to trick consumers into responding.

According to reports, the caller is altering the caller ID to make it look like a call is coming from the LA County Chief Executive Office’s Countywide Communications information line at 213-974-1311, claiming to be from Medi-cal, and asking people to share personal or medical info. If you get a call, hang up. Report the scam to (800) 822-6222 or online at: /www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/StopMedi-CalFraud.aspx.

SCAM ALERT: LA County Warns of Unexpected Calls

Spring Basket Items Needed

Celebrate springtime by helping a child in need! The Bellflower Volunteer Center works closely with community groups, churches, service clubs, schools, organizations and residents to provide spring baskets for our most needy students.

Partnering with Caring Connections through the Bellflower Unified School District, the Volunteer Center takes referrals from case managers who work directly with families in need.

There are several ways to get involved.

1) “Adopt” a child – We provide you with the details of the child you “adopt” (name, age, etc.). You create a basket based on the information we provide, and arrange to drop off the basket at the Volunteer Center.

2) Donate items for a basket - Suggested items for donation include: books, balls, puzzles, games, toys, candy, socks, school supplies, gift cards, toiletries (brush, lotion, comb, toothbrush, etc.) *Please include new items only.

NOTE: All donations must be received by March 16, 2022.

If you would like to be a part of this important program, please contact the Volunteer Center located at Simms Park, (562) 804-1424, ext 2331 or by email at mnavarro@bellflower.org.

Program sponsored by HUD – CDBG, Community Development Block Grant.