

**County of Tulare
Health & Human Services Agency
Public Health Branch**



Health Officer
5957 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277 559-624-8480

EMERGENCY ORDER FOR THE PREVENTION OF NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) TRANSMISSION IN OR ABOUT RESTAURANTS, BARS, FOOD TRUCKS, GROCERY STORES, AND OTHER RETAIL FOOD AND BEVERAGE SERVICE VENUES, ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATIONAL VENUES, GYMS, HEALTH CLUBS, THEATERS, CHURCHES, AND OTHER SOCIAL GATHERINGS

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the County Health Officer of the County of Tulare proclaimed and declared that a local health emergency now exists in the County of Tulare due to the presence of and threat posed by the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, the Tulare County Board of Supervisors ratified said proclamation at its regular meeting of March 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, said proclamation shall remain in effect until further notice; and

WHEREAS, the severity of the local health emergency appears to be increasing each day, with additional reported cases of COVID-19 infections and related deaths in all areas of California, the U.S., and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the California Department of Public Health ("CDPH") and State Emergency officials issued guidance to local communities regarding public safety measures that should be taken with respect to (1) retail food, beverage, and related service venues, (2) entertainment venues; and (3) gyms, health clubs, theaters, and other social gatherings, in order to prevent the transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, said guidance is designed to protect individuals attending and working at these venues and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our communities; and

WHEREAS, under said guidance, full copies of which are attached to this Order, the following actions have been recommended:

- **Bars, wineries, breweries and pubs** should be closed, except for venues that are currently authorized to provide off sale beer and wine to be consumed off premises be allowed; bars, breweries, pubs, and wineries that include meals provided by a full kitchen should follow the restaurant guidance below if they provide delivery or pick-up options;
- **Restaurants** should be closed for in-restaurant seated dining and should be open only to drive-through or other pick-up/delivery options;
- **Food trucks** should Increase the frequency of cleaning of menus, cash registers, receipt trays, condiment holders, writing instruments and other non-food contact surfaces frequently touched by patrons and employees, ensure that social distancing of six feet per person for non-family members is maintained and make clear that family members can participate together,

stand in line together, etc., but limiting the number of people in lines;

- **Grocery stores and charitable food distribution sites** should remain fully open and operational, but ensure that social distancing of six feet per person for nonfamily members is maintained and make clear that family members can participate in activities together, stand in line together, etc., while maintaining social distancing of six feet per person, particularly between individuals who have come together on a one-time or rare basis., and limiting the number of customers at any given time as necessary to reduce outdoor/indoor crowding and lines to meet social distancing guidance, and increase cleaning and sanitizing frequency of restroom and other high contact areas; and stores that have online ordering with outside pick-up or delivery options should encourage use of these when possible in lieu of indoor shopping;
- **Certified Farmers' Markets** should space booths accordingly to increase social distancing among patrons in line and walking about the market; ensure that social distancing of six feet per person for non-family members is maintained and make clear that family members can participate in activities together, stand in line together, etc.; limit the number of customers at any given time as necessary to reduce outdoor/indoor crowding and lines to meet social distancing guidance; increase cleaning and sanitizing frequency of restroom and other high contact areas; train employees on best hygiene practices including washing their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; offer additional hand washing or sanitizing stations throughout the venue; encourage activities such as pre-bagging to expedite purchasing; suspend sampling activities; increase frequency of cleaning of tables, payment devices, and other surfaces; eliminate non-essential/non-related services, such as bands or other entertainment; and at the end of the market, continue to utilize local food recovery systems to feed/donate extra products to populations in need;
- **All retail food and beverage service venues** should remind employees of best hygiene practices including washing their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- **Gambling venues** should eliminate, delay or reduce conventions/tournaments that increase customer flow above 250 persons in a single room/space; increase frequency of cleaning of chips, shuffling machines, and other objects utilized in games; increase frequency of cleaning and/or disposal of playing cards; eliminate non-essential/non-related services, such as massages or other ancillary services co-housed in gambling venues that could increase customer flow above 250 persons in a single room/space; ensure that social distancing of six feet per person for non-family members is maintained and make clear that family members can participate together, stand in line together etc.; limit the number of people in lines; separate spaces on the gaming floor into smaller components; increase frequency of cleaning and sanitizing per CDC Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection guidance of all hard surfaces, including terminals and felt and vinyl surfaces of card tables and chairs; increase cleaning and sanitizing frequency of restroom and other high contact areas; eliminate events/marketing that target individuals that the CDPH has identified higher risk of serious illness for COVID-19 ; provide additional opportunities throughout the venue for persons to reduce the spread of the virus through hand washing or sanitizing stations ;
- **Theme Parks and Attractions** should ensure that social distancing of six feet per person for non-family members is maintained and make clear that family members can participate in activities together, stand in line together etc.; strongly encourage social distancing of six feet per person, particularly between individuals who have come together on a one-time or rare basis and/or who have very different travel patterns such as those coming from multiple countries, state or counties; limit attendance as necessary to reduce outdoor/indoor crowding and lines to meet social distancing guidance; increase cleaning and sanitizing frequency of restroom and other high contact areas; train employees on best hygiene practices including washing their hands

often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; increase spacing of show times to allow for more thorough cleaning of single room or space and social distancing during show times; provide additional opportunities throughout the venue for persons to reduce the spread of the virus through hand washing or sanitizing stations; eliminate events/marketing that target individuals that the CDPH has identified as higher risk of serious illness for COVID-19; extend hours to allow for staggering of attendance; and add distance to locations individuals sit or stand around tables;

- **Gyms, health clubs, and theaters** should be closed;
- **All gatherings** (defined as any event or convening that brings together people in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, cafeteria, or any other indoor or outdoor space) should be postponed or cancelled, except for those defined as “essential,” meaning that they cannot be postponed or achieved without gathering, and that some other means of communication could not be used to conduct the essential function.

WHEREAS, the increasing threat posed by COVID-19 in Tulare County makes it advisable that the actions recommended in said guidance become mandatory in the incorporated and unincorporated areas of County of Tulare at least for the time being.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Tulare County Ordinance Code sections 1-15-1033 (b) and 1-15-1040 (b), and California Health and Safety Code sections 101040, 101085, and 120175, the Health Officer of the County of Tulare hereby orders as follows, which shall be effective immediately and remain in effect through April 19, 2020, unless earlier terminated or extended as necessary:

1. Definitions:

- a) Restaurant: Any establishment that sells food for consumption on-premises.
- b) Food Court: Any establishment that sells food for consumption on-premises in a shared setting with other establishments.
- c) Bar and tavern: Any establishment with the following types of California Alcoholic Beverage Control licenses:
 - 1) 40 - On Sale Beer (Bar, Tavern)
 - 2) 42 - On Sale Beer & Wine - Public Premises (Bar, Tavern)
 - 3) 48 - On Sale General - Public Premises (Bar, Night Club)
 - 4) 51 - Club
 - 5) 57 - Special On Sale General
 - 6) 60 - On Sale Beer - Seasonal
 - 7) 61 - On Sale Beer - Public Premises
- d) Food truck: Any “mobile food facility” within the meaning of the California Retail Food Code.
- e) Certified Farmers’ Market: A location that is certified by the State of California through the enforcement officers of the county agricultural commissioners and operated pursuant to Chapter 10.5 (commencing with Section 47000) of Division 17 of the Food and Agricultural Code and regulations adopted pursuant to that chapter.
- f) Grocery Store: Any store primarily engaged in the retail sale of canned food, dry goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, and fresh meats, fish, and poultry and any area that is not separately owned within the store where food is prepared and served, including a bakery, deli, and meat

and seafood counter. "Grocery store" includes convenience stores.

- g) Charitable Food Distribution Site: A "food bank" or "limited service charitable feeding operation" within the meaning of the California Retail Food Code.
 - h) Gambling venue: Any cardroom, casino, or similar site where the primary goal of those assembled is the wagering of money or other things of value on events with uncertain outcomes, with the primary intent of winning money or material goods, and over which the Tulare County Public Health Officer has jurisdiction.
 - i) Entertainment and recreational venue: Any site where the primary goal of those assembled is to promote amusement, enjoyment, pleasure, recreation, diversion, relaxation, and other similar uses, including, but not limited to, theme parks, amusement parks, attractions, theaters, museums, roller rinks, skate parks, sports stadiums, bowling alleys, and the like.
 - j) Theme park: Any entertainment venue or amusement park in which rides, games, and buildings are based on a central theme.
 - k) Amusement Park: Any entertainment venue that features various attractions such as rides and games, as well as other events for entertainment purposes.
 - l) Attraction: Any place of interest where persons visit, typically for its inherent or exhibited natural or cultural value, historical significance, natural or built beauty, offering leisure and amusement.
 - m) Gym and Health Club: a room or building used for various indoor sports or exercise activities, and usually equipped with exercise or gymnastic apparatus, locker and shower rooms, indoor or outdoor swimming pools, sports courts, and similar spaces.
 - n) Theater: Any entertainment venue used for housing dramatic presentations, stage entertainments, or motion-picture shows.
 - o) Church: Any site, with or without structures, the primary use of which is the assemblage of people for any religious worship, education, or expression.
 - p) Social gathering: Any event or convening that brings together people in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, cafeteria, or any other indoor or outdoor space.
2. **Restaurants, Food Courts, and other establishments** that offer on-premises dining shall not allow consumption of food or beverages on-premises. Delivery, drive-thru, and pick-up options are allowed.
 3. **Bars and taverns** shall be closed.
 4. **Food Trucks** shall not allow consumption of food or beverages on or about the premises; and shall increase the frequency of cleaning of menus, cash registers, receipt trays, condiment holders, writing instruments and other non-food contact surfaces frequently touched by patrons and employees; ensure that social distancing of six feet per person for non-family members is maintained and make clear that family members can participate together, stand in line together, etc., but limit the number of people in their lines.
 5. **Certified Farmers' Markets** shall space booths accordingly to increase social distancing among patrons in line and walking about the market; ensure that social distancing of six feet per person for non-family members is maintained and make clear that family members can participate in activities together, stand in line together, etc.; limit the number of customers at any given time as necessary to reduce outdoor/indoor crowding and lines to meet social distancing guidance; increase cleaning and sanitizing frequency of restroom and other high contact areas; train employees on best hygiene practices including washing their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; offer additional hand washing or sanitizing stations throughout the venue; encourage activities such as

pre-bagging to expedite purchasing; suspend sampling activities; increase frequency of cleaning of tables, payment devices, and other surfaces; eliminate non-essential/non-related services, such as bands or other entertainment; and at the end of the market, continue to utilize local food recovery systems to feed/donate extra products to populations in need.

6. **Grocery Stores and Charitable Food Distribution Sites** are allowed to remain fully open and operational, but must ensure that social distancing of six feet per person for nonfamily members is maintained and make clear that family members can participate in activities together, stand in line together, etc., while maintaining social distancing of six feet per person, particularly between individuals who have come together on a one-time or rare basis; limit the number of customers at any given time as necessary to reduce outdoor/indoor crowding and lines to meet social distancing guidance; increase cleaning and sanitizing frequency of restroom and other high contact areas; and stores that have online ordering with outside pick-up or delivery options should encourage use of these when possible in lieu of indoor shopping.
7. **All retail food, beverage, and other related service venues** shall remind employees of best hygiene practices including washing their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
8. **Gambling venues** shall be closed.
9. **Entertainment and recreational venues**, including, but not limited to, theme parks, amusement parks, attractions, theaters, museums, roller rinks, skate parks, sports stadiums, bowling alleys, public and private golf courses, and the like, shall be closed.
10. **Gyms and health clubs** shall be closed;
11. **All social gatherings**, including, but not limited to church services, meetings of service and social clubs, conferences, conventions, and the like, shall be postponed or cancelled, except for those defined as “essential,” meaning that they cannot be postponed or achieved without gathering, and that some other means of communication could not be used to conduct the essential function. For any social gatherings deemed to be essential, the organizers and participants shall ensure that social distancing of six feet per person for non-family members is maintained, limit attendance as necessary to reduce outdoor/indoor crowding to meet social distancing guidance, increase cleaning and sanitizing frequency of restroom and other high contact areas, and strongly encourage the following of best personal hygiene practices, including washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
12. For those businesses closed under this Order, business owners, managers, and supervisory staff are allowed to be on site to conduct minimum basic operations, provided that they each observe the social distancing and best personal hygiene practices (including washing their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds) outlined above.
13. No County permits for special events shall be granted.
14. No temporary ABC licenses shall be authorized by the County.
15. For personal and public health and safety purposes, all residents of and visitors to Tulare County are strongly urged to practice social distancing of six feet per person when able to do so, wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and follow all other guidance from public health officials with regard to the threat posed by COVID-19.
16. Each incorporated city within Tulare County is urged and requested to take such actions, if any, as may be reasonably necessary to permit this Order to be fully enforced within its respective jurisdiction.
17. The Public Health Branch of the Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency, the Tulare County District Attorney’s office, the Tulare County Counsel’s office, and all other applicable County of Tulare Agencies, Departments, and Divisions are requested and directed to enforce this Order

within their respective jurisdictions.

18. Pursuant to California Government Code section 26602, the Sheriff of Tulare County is requested to enforce this Order within the Sheriff's jurisdiction to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
19. Pursuant to California Government Code section 41601, the chiefs of the police departments of the Cities of Visalia, Tulare, Porterville, Dinuba, Exeter, Lindsay, Woodlake, and Farmersville are requested to enforce this Order within their respective jurisdictions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
20. The Order shall be subject to amendment or repeal at any time and shall not be deemed to confer any contractual obligations, property rights, or assume any County or other public agency liability.
21. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, then the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.
22. This Order shall be immediately translated into Spanish, and accommodations made for disabled persons to read its contents; it shall also be distributed to all local media and made prominently available on the County of Tulare's website.
23. Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code sections 101029 and 120280, and Tulare County Ordinance Code sections 1-15-1040(b) and 125, violations of this Order shall be punishable as a misdemeanor upon conviction by a fine of not exceeding one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for a term of not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Time: 5:10 p.m.

Issued by:



Date: March 19, 2020

Karen Haught, MD
County Health Officer
County of Tulare
Health & Human Services Agency
Public Health Branch

Approved as to Form:
COUNTY COUNSEL

By /s/Jeffrey L. Kuhn
Chief Deputy
Matter No. 2020217

Attachments: March 16, 2020 Guidances from CDPH

