

From: [Nancy Bronstein](#)
To: [All Alameda Mailboxes](#)
Subject: FW: Employee Update - COVID -19
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:21:34 PM
Attachments: [Covid Protection Program \(CPP\).pdf](#)

Hello Everyone and Happy Holidays,

We hope everyone is doing well during this difficult time. We know many of us are disappointed with the impact COVID-19 is having on the holiday season, however, there is good news about vaccine approval and distribution! Although the vaccine availability is limited to healthcare workers and long term care residents for now, there is light at the end of the tunnel for the rest of us. Let's keep our hopes up and stay safe until then.

As we head into the holidays, we wanted to provide updates on the three items below:

- The new Stay at Home order including non-essential travel
- The new California's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) COVID-19 regulations; and
- How to sign up for the new State of California COVID-19 notification app (CA Notify).

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Zoom Employee Bingo on December 17th!

Also, be on the look-out for a goodie bag from the Community Development Department. This bag, which was also distributed within the community, has items to help you stay safe, as we await the vaccine. If you are not in the office the bag will be waiting for you when you return.

Stay at Home Order and Non-Essential Travel

On December 7, 2020, a new Stay at Home order was issued in Alameda County. This order is in place until January 4, 2021. Prior to this order being issued, in an effort to protect employees and prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City encouraged employees that are able, to work from home through the end of this year. Our recommendation is still that employees able to work remotely continue to do so with approval from their department.

Additionally, this order specifically addresses non-essential travel. We understand with the holidays coming how truly hard and frustrating it is to not be with family. We encourage you to be safe this holiday season, and follow the Stay at Home order. If you do travel, we ask that you notify your Manager and make arrangements to either work remotely (if possible) for 10 days after your return, or arrange with your Manager to ensure you are able to maintain physical distancing in the workplace.

New Cal/OSHA Regulations

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues and we find out more about the disease, we are learning best practices to prevent transmission and protect employees in the workplace. To this end, California's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) has issued new regulations for workplace practices related to COVID-19. These new regulations include the creation of a COVID-19 Protection

Plan (CPP).

While the City has been sharing much of the information contained in this plan by email, the CPP allows us to have all information regarding the City's response in one document. The document includes information on:

- COVID-19 hazards
- Correction of hazards
- Control of hazards including physical distancing and mask wearing
- Investigation of cases
- Testing
- Exclusion of employees from the workplace
- Communication of hazards

We have attached this document for your review. The CPP will be on the Human Resources Website at www.alamedaca.gov/covidresources along with other COVID-19 resources. If you have any questions on the CPP please contact Lisa Llewellyn, the City's new Safety Coordinator or any other HR staff.

Smartphone Notification App

The State of California has launched a new digital COVID-19 contact tracing app called CA Notify:

- Smartphone users can now opt-in to the service designed by Apple and Google that uses Bluetooth to track when two devices have been near each other for at least 15 minutes.
- If a CA Notify user tests positive, they'll be texted a code to plug into the app.
- Other users who have been within 6 feet of them will then receive a notification about potential exposure.
- This will allow people who test positive to anonymously inform those with whom they have been in close proximity that they may have been exposed. The idea is to make sure the infected person's contacts can be quickly tested and quarantine.
- The platform is available on the iPhones Settings menu under "Exposure Notifications," but Android users will have to download the CA Notify App.

Thank you all for continuing with the work that is so important to the city during this difficult time.

Stay safe and have a wonderful holiday,
Your Human Resources Team

