

For Immediate Release
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Contact: John O. Tulloch
(510) 420-3040
jtulloch@piedmont.ca.gov

**Health Officers Impose Stricter Shelter In Place Requirements
Alameda County Order Effective 12:01 a.m. on December 7, 2020**

The Health Officers of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, and Santa Clara Counties, along with the City of Berkeley have announced that these health jurisdictions will impose the provisions of the State of California's stricter shelter in place order sooner than required by the state. This is in an effort to take proactive steps to reduce COVID-19 infections rampant in the community and the related strain it is causing on the health care system. In Alameda County, the revised shelter in place order will become effective at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, December 7th and will remain in effect until January 4th.

The [revised, stricter shelter in place order](#) is designed to limit interactions between persons living in different households which could spread the disease. The biggest change in the order is that private gatherings are prohibited and that social bubbles must be disbanded. The health officers stressed that this order aligns these health jurisdictions with the stricter standards announced by the state earlier this week but does so earlier than required by the state.

In a [media release issued by the health officers](#), Santa Clara County Health Officer Dr. Sara Cody states, "We cannot wait until after we have driven off the cliff to pull the emergency break. We understand that the closures under the State order will have a profound impact on our local businesses. However, if we act quickly, we can both save lives and reduce the amount of time these restrictions have to stay in place, allowing businesses and activities to reopen sooner."

Alameda County Health Officer Dr. Nicholas Moss said, "Rising hospitalization rates across the region threaten not only our community members with severe COVID-19, but anyone who may need care because of a heart attack, stroke, accident, or other critical health need. By acting together now we will have the greatest impact on the surge and save more lives."

Among the [changes required by this order](#) are the closure of outdoor dining, personal care services, playgrounds, museums, zoos, wineries, and bars. Restaurants will remain able to serve takeout and delivery. In response to the changes mandated by this order, the City of Piedmont will close our playgrounds effective Monday, December 7th.

The emotional and physical health of Piedmonters is important. We encourage outdoor recreation and at this time, parks, with the exception of playgrounds, will remain open for recreational use. The City will be monitoring compliance with the social distancing requirements as well as restrictions on gatherings. Should residents not comply with these basic health protections, which are mandatory under the order, the City will have no choice but to close these spaces again. We hope that you will enjoy parks safely and in a manner that protects your own health and that of your neighbors.

“It is important that our entire community take action to stem the spread of this disease by limiting interactions with people outside their household,” said City Administrator Sara Lillevand. “Our collective well-being is at stake and we owe it to each other to keep our community safe.”

The City is currently examining other ways in which operations will be affected and will make announcements as appropriate.