



COVID-19 Community Update

A Summary of City News for the week of June 14 – June 19, 2020

We are committed to keeping you informed. The following is an update on the City’s response to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and reduce the impact on our community. We are all in this together and we all must do our part!

State Now Requires Face Coverings in High-Risk Settings

The State of California now [requires the use of face coverings](#) in high-risk settings, according to [new State guidance](#). The guidance mandates the use of cloth face coverings by the general public statewide when outside the home, with limited exceptions, including children under the age of two, people who have medical or mental health conditions that prevent wearing face coverings, and people who are eating or drinking at a restaurant or establishment that offers food or beverages, and others. The City emphasizes voluntary compliance to ensure our community members protect themselves and each other from the spread of COVID-19.

Visit [ReadySLO.org](#) to review the full State guidance on face coverings, including a detailed list of requirements and exemptions, and to get updates on COVID-19 in SLO County, or call the phone assistance center at (805) 543-2444, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Enjoy Outdoor Dining and Community Spaces in Downtown SLO

The City is excited kick off the **Open SLO** experience, a new pilot program to expand the use of City streets and other public spaces for outdoor dining, shopping, and strolling. The first Open SLO projects will use Mission Plaza, Monterey Street and Higuera Street within the downtown to allow our community members to come together and enjoy our City while remaining physically distant and following guidelines to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Learn more by visiting [openslo.org](#).



Monterey Street and Mission Plaza will be accessible for business and public use Thursday & Friday 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm and Saturday & Sunday 11:00 am – 8:00 pm beginning June 18, 2020.

Higuera Street will be accessible for business and public use Friday 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm and Saturday & Sunday 11:00 am – 8:00 pm beginning June 26, 2020.

The closures of Monterey and Higuera will take place one (1) hour prior for set up. With City approval, participating establishments can begin placing their seating and/or retail displays in their designated areas once the roadway is closed off and remaining vehicles have been relocated. Information for businesses on how to request a no-fee permit for use of public space during a street closure by contacting OpenSLO@slocity.org.

New Business Allowed to Reopen Friday

As the Stay-at-Home order is modified, it is essential that businesses take all steps necessary to ensure the safety of workers and customers. Key business practices include physical distancing to the maximum extent possible, use of face coverings by employees and patrons, frequent handwashing, regular cleaning and disinfecting, and training employees on their COVID-19 prevention plan. Businesses planning to resume operations on June 19 or thereafter must review the State guidance, conduct a risk assessment, and complete the self-certification form available at [Emergencyslo.org/reopen](https://www.emergencyslo.org/reopen).

- Body art: This includes tattoo, body piercing and permanent cosmetic facilities
- Personal Care Services: This includes esthetician, skin care, and cosmetology services, electrology, nail salons and massage

Not sure you if you can reopen or not? Or have any questions about reopening? Fill out the [Business Reopening Inquiry form](#), or call the Business & Community Hotline for support at 805-783-7835. This line is staffed during regular business hours. After hours calls will be returned the next business day.

Keep Doing Your Part and Be Smart

Community members still play a critical role in continuing to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community. The City encourages community members to be smart by continually following public health guidance by remembering to wash your hands frequently, stay home if you are sick, maintain 6 feet of distance from those outside of your household, and to wear a mask when you can't physically distance and look for businesses with the County's "Open and Safe" signs.

The County recommends getting tested if you have symptoms or think you may have been in contact with someone who has been exposed. Additionally, if you have participated in the recent protests, rallies or marches, public health officials recommend being tested 5-6 days afterwards as a precaution. Free testing is available and you can sign up at [EmergencySLO.org/testing](https://www.emergencySLO.org/testing) or call 805-543-2444. For more information related to the protests, rallies and marches in the City, please [click here](#).

Additional Resources

- Please visit www.ReadySLO.org for the latest public health updates and recommendations or call the Public Health information Line at (805) 788-2903 (recorded message) or the County's Phone Assistance Center at (805) 543-2444.
- City Business + Community Shelter at Home Hotline (805) 783-7835 to report concerns or inquire on essential business status.
- [Sign Up for E-Notifications](#): The City is committed to keeping you informed. Please register here to receive periodic email updates and follow the City of San Luis Obispo on social media for the latest information.
- [City of San Luis Obispo COVID-19 Information](#)
- [San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department](#)
- [California Department of Public Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Mental Health & Emotional Support Services](#)

Have comments, suggestions or need help? We are here to support you! Please email help@slocity.org or call (805) 781-7100.