



**CITY OF EL CENTRO
COVID-19 Pandemic Response &
Economic Recovery Task Force**

MEMORANDUM

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TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: COVID-19 Pandemic Response & Economic Recovery Task Force

PREPARED BY: Liz Zarate, City Manager's Management Assistant

RE: Update ending February 1, 2021

DATE: January 29, 2021

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The following COVID-19 information has been updated as of February 1, 2021. The City of El Centro has a COVID-19 Hotline that is available to El Centro businesses and residents in English and Spanish which is available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. The phone number is 760-337-4037.

The City of El Centro is tracking local, state, and federal information related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Healthcare System/Testing](#)

Imperial County Public Health Department: Currently in Tier 1a. Vaccine supply is limited. By appointment only. Local pharmacies are starting to offer vaccines. Imperial County Public Health Department is vaccinating high-risk individuals within Phase 1A - Tier 1, 2 & 3. Phone Number: (442) 265-6700 Website: www.icphd.org. Other Information: High-risk individuals within Phase 1A - Tier 1, 2 & 3 will be contacted by their employer and provided information regarding upcoming clinic dates and direct links to make an appointment.

Initial Vaccination Rollout for individuals 65 years of age and older:

Clinics will be announced as more vaccine becomes available. Persons 65 and older, who may need additional assistance, please contact the Area Agency on Aging at (442) 265-7033/7040.

The following are vaccine providers approved to receive limited COVID-19 vaccine (contingent upon weekly Imperial County allocations):

Vaccine Provider: El Centro Regional Medical Center
Address: 1415 Ross Avenue, El Centro, CA 92243 Website: ecrmc.org

Vaccine Provider: Desert Pharmacy
Address: 1560 S. Imperial Ave, El Centro, CA 92243
Website: [Desert Pharmacy | El Centro Pharmacy](#)

Vaccine Provider: Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo El Centro
Address: 852 Danenberg Dr, El Centro, CA 92243
Phone Number: 760-352-2257 Website: <http://cdsdp.org/>

El Centro Regional Medical Center: Total Inpatient Count is 105 with 44 COVID-19 patients. Offering Monoclonal antibody therapy, which helps prevent hospitalization, or worsening of symptoms in patients with COVID-19. **COVID-19 Vaccines** - ECRMC does NOT have any vaccine clinics schedules at this time. We recommend you check website <https://www.ecrhc.org> frequently for updates.

Clinicas Del Salud Del Pueblo: Offering vaccines to seniors/patients of clinics. As additional dates for vaccines are available, the message will be released to the community. For more information call (760) 352-2257 or visit website: <http://cdsdp.org/>.

California Governor: California Public Health Officials lift Regional Stay at Home Order for ALL regions effective January 25, 2021. All counties to return to the Blueprint for a Safer Economy framework. Currently, Imperial County is in the most restrictive Purple/Widespread Tier. On January 27, 2021, Governor Newsom announced improvements to the state's vaccination plan. Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order to bolster the state's efforts to vaccinate as many Californians as possible as quickly as possible.

Imperial County Mobile Testing Unit – January 25- 29, 2021: locations: 01/25 @ El Centro Public Library

[Public Safety Update](#)

Police Department – For the month of December 2020, the following public safety calls were made:

- Price Gouging – 0
- Non-Essential Open Businesses – 1 unfounded
- Non-Compliance Social Distancing - 3 unfounded
- Mask Related – 1 unfounded
- Mass Gatherings – 4 Complaints unfounded

Code Enforcement – For the month of December 2020, the Code Enforcement division provided 1,800 masks and 450 hand sanitizers to homeless in El Centro.

[Education/School System Update](#)

Imperial County Office of Education – Schools systems are currently conducting online/virtual sessions for all age groups. Information can be located at <https://www.icoe.org/covid-19>.

Central Union High School District - School offices are open to the public, with limited services and hours at the walk-up windows. Information can be located at <https://www.cuhsd.net/COVID19-Recovery-Plan/index.html> or by calling (760) 336-4500.

[Parks & Recreation Update](#)

Parks & Recreation Activities - Virtual pre-recorded activities available at <http://www.cityofelcentro.org/parkandrec> for all age groups. For more information, call (760) 337-4555.

EI Centro Public Library Activities - The library is open with limited capacity. Offering in-person services with limited capacity only 35 library patrons are allowed to utilize the library for 45-minute timeframes. The hours of operation is Monday through Friday, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm and closed from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm to clean the facility. Public computers are available by appointment only and are limited to one visit per day for 45 minutes.

VIRTUAL PRESCHOOL STORY TIME: Story time is held every Wednesday at 10:00 am.

CRAFT ON TUESDAY: Craft and activities packets distributed every Tuesday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Weekly packets consists of library resources, craft kits, activity booklets and books on educational information.

CURBSIDE PICKUP SERVICE: Check out our catalog online at www.cityofelcentro.org/library or request your items by emailing eclib@cityofelcentro.org and by calling (760) 337-4565.

LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY: Offering FREE healthy lunches for kids & teens; meals are served curbside pickup Monday through Friday from 11 am to 12 pm.

[Food Services/Mental Health/Counseling Update](#)

Imperial Valley Food Bank - distributes food to our community primarily through neighbor sites and local agencies. Due to the closure of many of these locations and the surge in food needed during the COVID-19 outbreak, the Food Bank will help new families to our programs by appointment only. Call [760-370-0966](tel:760-370-0966) to make an appointment.

County of Imperial Mental Health Services – offers resources for individuals and families that are concerned with behavioral and mental health. For more information, please call (442) 265-1525.

[Economic Recovery Update](#)

Residential Utility/Rental Assistance:

County of Imperial –County of Imperial is working with IID and individual cities to assist with utility assistance. Electricity Relief Program that may be able to assist customers with electric bill.

Imperial Irrigation District – Effective January 19, 2021, IID approved implementing a multi-faceted payment plan for customers who have fallen behind on their electric bills. For information, contact the Imperial Irrigation District at 1-800-303-7756 and visit the links on this page and at www.imperialcounty.org. Submit your application and all required documentation in a sealed envelope by February 12, 2021.

Southern California Gas Co. -

- Service disconnections have been suspended until further notice. This means no residential or small business customer using less than 10,000 therms per year will have their natural gas turned off due to non-payment.
- Customer service representatives continue to be available 24-hours a day, 7 days a week to answer your questions, help you select a payment option, or determine if the service your calling about needs our attention right away. If in need of assistance, customers can call [1-800-427-2200](tel:1-800-427-2200).
- For our Small Business Customers using less than 10,000 therms a year, waiving late payment fees.

City of El Centro – Offers flexible payment plan for utility services with the City. For more information, contact Finance Department at (760) 337-4510 to set up a payment plan.

Commercial/Small Business Utility/Rental Assistance

City of El Centro:

CDBG-CV Coronavirus Microenterprise Loan Program - The City of El Centro established a CDBG-CV Coronavirus Microenterprise Loan Program to help businesses impacted by COVID-19 retain employees and sustain continuity of operations. Financial assistance up to \$10,000 in low-interest or forgivable loans will be allocated to eligible small businesses on a first-come, first-served basis. Funds awarded will be based on availability, program guidelines, and the submission of all required information and supporting documentation proving financial hardship related to COVID-19. For more information, please call Economic Development Division at (760) 337-4543.

Revolving Loan Fund COVID-19 CARES Act Supplemental Disaster Recovery and Resiliency Funding: The City of El Centro was awarded a supplemental grant in the amount of \$550,000 on July 23, 2020 from the Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA). The supplemental grant was awarded to alleviate sudden and severe economic dislocation caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, to provide permanent resources to support economic resiliency, and to further the long-term economic adjustment objectives of the City of El Centro and Imperial County. For more information, please call Economic Development Division at (760) 337-4543.

Free Infrared Thermometers – Small business can receive a free infrared thermometer to help aid in preventing COVID-19. For more information, please call Economic Development Division at (760) 337-4037.

Residential/Commercial Eviction Moratorium

State of California – On January 25, 2021, Governor Newsom announced an agreement to extend the eviction moratorium in California through June 30, 2021 – protecting tenants and small landlords from losing their housing as the nation continues to confront the pandemic.

County of Imperial - Board of Supervisors approved the adoption of an uncodified urgency ordinance reinstating the temporary prohibition on COVID-19 related evictions in the unincorporated areas of Imperial County through September 30, 2021.

[Other Resources](#)

El Centro Chamber of Commerce

Membership Updates for business members can be found at <http://www.elcentrochamber.org/covid-19-business-resources> or by calling (760) 352-3681.

Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation

Live trainings and on-demand sessions available daily - topics covering:

- SBA loan application assistance
- Industry-specific guides for COVID-19
- Recovery and adapting for COVID-19

SBA First and Second Draw PPP Loans; California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program; Small Business COVID-19 Layoff Aversion Grant Fund; California Rebuilding Fund

For more information: call (760) 312-9800 or email ivsbdc@imperialalliance.org

IV Business Recovery Task Force

Offering COVID-19 Labor Law webinars series through March 2021. For more information, please call (442) 253-0217