

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

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Equitable Access to the COVID-19 Vaccine

Los Angeles County has mobilized all its resources in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and now the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccine. In a short period, the County launched five mega points of dispensing (PODs) and facilitated many other PODs through healthcare and community partners. The mega PODS are strategically located and part of a larger framework of other vaccination sites coming online, including pharmacies, hospitals, clinics, urgent care facilities, and schools.

But until the COVID-19 vaccine is available in every neighborhood, there are significant inequities like access to transportation that must be addressed. With inclement weather, limited appointment availability, and a limited but growing number of vaccine sites, the County has a responsibility to partner with transportation operators, authorities and companies to ensure community members, particularly those 65 and older, can access our vaccination sites with ease. With a county this size, offering transportation options to vaccination sites is critical.

Additionally, we have a responsibility to bring the vaccine to those in the

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community – particularly at public housing sites and senior centers – in the hardest hit neighborhoods of the County. President Joseph R. Biden’s Administration announced the support arriving in Los Angeles County to deploy mobile vaccine options and our County is working to deploy other mobile units, reflecting the significant need for this service. Mobilizing more accessible options to the vaccine is integral – it is a matter of equity.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the County Emergency Operations Center, including the Department of Public Health, to:

1. Partner, coordinate, and execute necessary agreements with municipal and regional transit operators, authorities and companies, and evaluate where possible, re-routing the County’s own transit services to provide direct access to vaccine PODs, ensuring transportation is not a barrier to vaccine access for County residents.
2. Develop mobile options to offer other mechanisms to bring the COVID-19 vaccine to residents.
3. Report back on implementation of the above directives in fourteen (14) days.

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