

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti Briefing | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2020

MAYOR GARCETTI: Good evening, Los Angeles, and welcome again to Los Angeles City Hall, and thank you for joining us this evening. Tonight I'm joined by our Los Angeles Police Department Police Chief Michel Moore. And I want to thank him for joining us again tonight and the work that all of the men and women of Los Angeles Police Department and our public safety agencies across LA County are doing each and every day to protect us. He'll speak a few minutes more about how we can continue to keep Angelenos safe while they are staying at home.

MAYOR GARCETTI: But first, let me start on a personal note with a little bit of sad news because we lost a dear friend of mine, a mentor, my former creative writing teacher and an environmental giant for the City of Los Angeles. I'm speaking to you in a downtown of a coastal city that's not on the coast. Ironically that's because it wasn't the water of the ocean, but the water of the Los Angeles River that founded our city. The supply of that water, the birthplace of a river that was named Los Angeles before the city was, and Lewis MacAdams who founded Friends of the Los Angeles River, passed away yesterday. He was a giant, somebody who was a poet, somebody who was a prophet and somebody who made sure that we resurrected our birthplace, the Los Angeles River. And my heart breaks for him, for his family. He did not die of COVID-19, but I wanted to thank him for who he was and what he gave our City, the work that we'll continue to do along the Los Angeles River will be in your memory, and every single day we'll hear your poetry and we'll see you downstream.

MAYOR GARCETTI: I'm proud that our city has been at the forefront of the conservation movement ever since we experienced the 1950s and 60s, some of the worst air in America. And typically we would come together today, Earth Day, back to 50th Anniversary of Earth Day, to celebrate our progress and reaffirm our commitment to combating climate change, to improving our air quality, and to make sure that we have a future that is greener with job and a green economy for everyone. But as we stay safer at home, we obviously can't gather and celebrate as we usually do on this day. So instead, we should consider Earth Day in our changed context and also think about the connections between our environment and COVID-19. A recent Harvard University study linked air pollution and the risk of death from COVID-19, and that's because many preexisting conditions that make people more susceptible and vulnerable to dying from this novel coronavirus, like cardiovascular and respiratory troubles also grow out of long-term exposure to pollution. And that's just one of the many ways that climate change and COVID overlap, how both pose deadly risks that will require all of us to come together to protect our own health and the health of this planet.

MAYOR GARCETTI: It's another reason must--another reason our city must continue to lead on the forefront of not only cleaning up our smog and cleaning our air, but helping our entire planet heal as well. And we know that these impacts disproportionately affect lower-income Angelenos, communities of color, our children, and both call on us to fundamentally alter how we live. As I said on Sunday, this is not just about reopening and recovering, but reimagining our city and what we can do better to see more blue skies like we've seen in recent weeks, to build more public transportation, to have more opportunities for us to be healthy. And looking out at windows we can see the remarkable impact of the work that we have done to keep ourselves safe and how our Earth has responded. But as we emerge from this blue sky and go back in the future to a new Los Angeles, let us make sure that everything from Los Angeles'

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green new deal to the work that we've done on public transportation and cleaning our air continuous as well. Happy Earth Day to everybody, even as we celebrate at home.

MAYOR GARCETTI: So let me run through the usual data snapshot of COVID-19 stats that you need to know this evening. Today the county reported 1,318 new positive COVID-19 cases, bringing the total to 16,435, a 9 percent increase since yesterday. For comparison, we've seen the past seven days about 879 new cases a day, and this was another with a backlog of cases that were added. So the last three days, don't get freaked out by a bigger number, it's because there's more testing online and a backlog of cases coming from some of the labs are coming to us today.

MAYOR GARCETTI: In the City of Los Angeles, 647 new cases were confirmed; bringing the total to 7,551, a 9.5 percent increase since yesterday. And today, we learned most tragically of 66 new deaths countywide, bringing the total to 729, the second most deadly day that we've recorded. This is a ten percent increase since yesterday, it represents 1.5 percent of all the deaths in America from COVID-19, but we are a county that accounts for 3 percent of the nation's population, so we are about half per capita of the nation's average. But today was the second highest number, as I mentioned, since reporting began in March and every family that got that horrible news and who can't grieve alongside their loved ones, who didn't have the opportunity to hold the member of their family that is now not here. We are with you in your grief tonight.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Deaths are doubling every 7 to 8 days, and across the county, though, we still maintain good hospital capacity, in our general emergency hospitals there are nearly 1,300 beds available, 1,299 to be exact, including 1,053 acute care beds and 246 ICU beds and 1,143 available ventilators. As we confront this crisis, and as we start to determine when and how we'll begin reopening our city in the future, testing continues to be the most critical tool we have. And every day as I report, we're working to expand our testing capacity. As I described it, to widen that aperture of how many people can come and get tests and have the information they need and we need to stop this virus.

MAYOR GARCETTI: And I was very pleased to hear today Governor Newsom recommend to local governments like ours and places like Los Angeles and the rest of the state, that we should begin to test asymptomatic, which is just a fancy way of saying people without symptoms, folks out there in our community, including residents and staff of nursing facilities, which we've done now for a couple of weeks that I've shared with you, as well as healthcare workers. Well, Los Angeles has been steadily doing that to people who have both symptoms and those who don't in those high-risk areas, at nursing homes through our LAFD Rapid Response teams. And over the last two days, the team has provided testing to more than a 1,000 residents and staff, both with and without symptoms, to make sure and we contacted dozens more offering free testing services.

MAYOR GARCETTI: And I am very excited to be able to announce tonight that starting tomorrow we will make testing available to all critical workers that are on the frontlines with or without symptoms. I know members of the press asked yesterday, "When can we start testing asymptomatic people?" I mentioned that we were doing that in our nursing homes and senior care facilities, but starting tomorrow health care professionals, grocery store workers, first

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responders and critical government personnel can get a test even if you don't have symptoms. We wish we could open that up to everybody, but I think we all know that we have firefighters and police officers, doctors, nurses, janitors at hospitals, folks that are in grocery stores and pharmacies that are putting themselves out on the line.

MAYOR GARCETTI: And we want to make sure that they are healthy, that they have the peace of mind of knowing they're healthy and because they interact with so many people, that we can make sure that they are not spreading. So workers should contact their employers on how to get priority testing, but it's a very important milestone on the road to reopening, and you can go to coronavirus.lacity.org/testing to sign up at one of the 34 testing sites across LA City and LA County. Today we have the capacity, again, to test 12,200 people, and we believe by the end of today just through these testing centers will have tested approximately 93,000 people, together with earlier test, test providers and the public health laboratories were probably north of a 120,000 tests in LA County since we started.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Everything we're doing is focused on your safety and on your health, and we can't take our foot off the accelerator now. As you can see, our debts are still rising care in LA County. I warned last week that even as we saw the rate of increase begin to plateau, we are still increasing and deaths are a lagging indicator. That means that it will take two or three weeks to see the peak of our deaths potentially. So we must keep adhering to emergency measures to ensure that that peak is coming, otherwise we'll continue climbing to even higher and higher peaks, more tragedy, more deaths, more sadness, and that aperture of opening up society will continue to be pretty closed.

MAYOR GARCETTI: And I've said repeatedly, if any non-essential businesses continue to operate, they can spread this disease, their selfishness means every other business can't reopen. It means that more people will get sick and more people will die. So we would act to ensure their compliance with our safer at home order. Our business ambassadors, which are our collection of city employers and members of my Mayor's Crisis Response Team, have visited now more than 1,700 businesses, including 47 more yesterday, and almost all respond as we hoped, by closing their doors and Chief Moore would talk a little bit more about that and what happens when they don't. But as a reminder, if you see violations that are out there, businesses that are not yet allowed to be open, please let us know so we can send those ambassadors, educate them, ask them to close, and if necessary, take more extreme steps, coronavirus.lacity.org/businessviolation is where you can go to let us know what you see in your neighborhood to keep us all safe, and thank you for helping.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Some businesses are essential, like those that are making the non-medical grade face covering, the masks that we are now mandating in the city and the county and part of the LA Protects manufacturing initiative to get some of our people back to work in critical roles that we need to protect all of us. But we also want to make sure that workers at all of those facilities are safe and that they're being fairly paid by the law. That's why today I launched the LA Protects Business Ambassador Program where we'll focus on physical distancing at workstations, disinfection protocols, and ensuring the county's physical distancing protocol is complete. These will be really important, not just for the LA Protects Program and

the masks they are making, but also for looking down the line at how we could reopen manufacturing and other industries and get more people back to work.

MAYOR GARCETTI: We need to make it work here first. So ambassadors will document any company they think should be referred to the city's Office of Wages and Standards if they're not abiding by the law, as well as worker safety issues that could be raised with Cal/OSHA. And repeat violators would be referred to the police department for further action. Most companies are overwhelmingly doing the right thing, and all of them are helping us out with this manufacturing, but you still have to comply with all existing laws while that is happening. So to tell us a little bit more about enforcement, let me turn it over to Chief Moore, again thank him and his women and men of the department that are doing extraordinary work, filling in in new roles, protecting us all, seeing a drop in crime but at the same time making sure that we all feel safe while we are safe at home. Chief Moore?

MICHEL MOORE: Thank you, Mayor, and let me take this opportunity now and more than four weeks into this engagement to thank you for your leadership, your leadership in not only establishing some of the first testing but the capacity that you are building to monitor and identify those that are impacted by COVID-19. And now, with this addition of allowing first responders who are asymptomatic, I know I have hundreds of men and women that would look forward to that are up to it because of suspicion, of concerns for their welfare or their family and others, and opening that aperture to allow them accesses is just--it's great for us, it's great for a leader for me to know that.

MICHEL MOORE: Your work also, though, with the safer at home directive, I am here tonight to talk to Angelenos. Your work with the crisis response team and disaster service workers, those 1,700-plus instances to non-essential businesses to remind them, they are basically on a citizen's complaint. And the community member who receives and believes that that location should not be operating and that disaster service worker community response team volunteer has really allowed LAPD to stay focused on our primary mission of enforcement. But it has also allowed us to identify repeat offenders and in more than 1,500 instances since this program was in its inception, we have found instances again where with our added nudge, the businesses become compliant.

MICHEL MOORE: But I hate to say this, but there have been those that refused to comply and have required enforcement action. And today we have had 86 individuals, and out of 3,600-plus instances, that's a very small margin but it's 86 instances of business that are jeopardizing not only themselves and their employees, but their customers and everyone else around them. And it really undermines the very essence of why it's safer at home. And I am proud of the work in concert with City Attorney Feuer and his office's involvement. They have now filled 25 of those complaints before a court to pursue a corona prosecution, including of potential, substantial fine for that violation.

MICHEL MOORE: Going forward, the addition of the monitoring of locations for utility shutoffs, we've made more than 173 visits today, and in all but one instance we've been able to with that last lever achieve compliance. So all in all, I'd just say to the Angelenos and the

business owners and operators of non-essential businesses, stay closed. The more you're compliant with that order, the sooner we'll be out of this ordeal. And for those members of the community that believe that they've called and yet they see the business still operating, please, call us again. We have resources both day and night. We have volunteers as well as dedicated police resources, and we will respond and we will investigate. And if the location is a repeat offender, we will accelerate and amplify the enforcement efforts.

MICHEL MOORE: The second--there're two other areas I want to talk about tonight. And this next one is the most important, and that is the instances of domestic violence. And what we are seeing right now with this pandemic and the troubling trend, and what I need all of Angelenos to help us move forward with. Each day across America more than 20,000 calls are made to domestic violence hotline. Victims, individuals that are being victimized at home violently, physical abuse, emotional abuse. We know nationally more than 10 million women suffer physical abuse in this country, and with this, in talking with our domestic violence coordinators and advocates, we've heard that those hotline calls were up by 50 percent.

MICHEL MOORE: And yet what we know this fifth week in this pandemic is that calls to us and reported crimes for domestic violence are down. We looked at two--we are having 10 fewer crime reports each day for instances at domestic violence. That's going in the wrong direction with what we believe is actually occurring behind closed doors. With so many individuals now staying home and not walking outside or moving about the city, we believe that there are increases of both domestic violence, whether it be by a family member or even in increased levels of child abuse. What we want all Angelenos to know is that the LAPD is here, we will respond, we will investigate, and we'll hold and bring to justice those responsible for domestic violence. And even as important as that is that we can get victims of domestic violence to a shelter, to safe housing, to locations so that they don't have to be in that home with that abuser. And I am proud to say that with the generous funding by Rihanna and Jack Dorsey of amount of \$4.2 million to the Mayor's Fund of Los Angeles, that we've been able to build and bolster the shelter and safe housing space here in LA County.

MICHEL MOORE: Typically, prior to the pandemic, the county would have approximately 600 safe housing locations, and generally those locations would be at or near capacity. It's been the generosity of these two individuals as well as the generosity of so many others during this period of crisis and emergency that are coming up, stepping up, and filling critical gaps of what it means to be safe in our region. In closing on domestic violence, I just, I want to say again to advocates and providers and to victims that may be out there, is that LAPD stands ready and want to hear from you and we'll respond and get you help and get you safe.

MICHEL MOORE: The last issue for my remarks tonight is a matter of looking at the approaching weather. It's getting warmer in Los Angeles, and when it gets warmer in Los Angeles, we are a coastal city, we tend to head to the beach, we tend to head to the trails, we like to be outdoors. And yet, as we know and the non-essential activities, we've needed to close trailheads, we've needed to close the beaches. There're areas of Los Angeles that we're asking people not to congregate, to exercise, social distancing, so that we can cut down the spread of the COVID-19.

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MICHEL MOORE: And to date our efforts have been to advise, counsel, and direct, and I have to say the vast majority of Angelenos have been compliant. And they have avoided those congregations, and when they've been approached by officers, they've honored their directions and guidance. As we come upon this weekend and we see the increased temperature and we see other parts of this region opening their spaces, I know that there'll be opportunities for people to think, why not here? And we're going--let's just go out there. I am going to ask everyone though, is to exercise that social contract of our own responsibility and hold ourselves accountable and avoid those non-essential activities.

MICHEL MOORE: Take a walk on a sidewalk in a shaded area, find space by yourself or with your loved one and enjoy that time, but avoid those common areas here in Los Angeles that we'd like to enjoy living in LA, and save the police the awkwardness of us having to admonish you and advise and direct you for something that you already know. With that, our men and women can stay focused on public safety; we can continue and enjoy a safe Los Angeles, and as important, we can get through this pandemic sooner and onto the restoration and reimagining that we are all want. Thank you, Mayor.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Thank you very much, Chief Moore. Thank you again for all the work that you're doing, not just as the Chief of Police, but at our emergency operation center where you played a lead role in coordinating so much of our efforts. Since this crisis began, we've also been focusing, of course, on our housing situation. Those Angelenos who are hard hit by this crisis who are worried about paying their rent. At a moment when we are all safer at home, we can't allow anyone to lose their home. That's why early on we enacted our Residential and Commercial Eviction Moratorium. The council, as I speak, is looking at ways to strengthen that and make sure there is no loopholes.

MAYOR GARCETTI: We froze rents for all rent-stabilized units, and called on the federal government to make sure that rental relief is paired with mortgage assistance for the landlords who own those apartments, who themselves could lose the apartments just as renters are worried about losing their apartment. It is why we have encouraged tenants and landlords to work together because all of us are making sacrifices. Getting through this emergency requires everyone to be flexible and compassionate. It's why we've also urged renters recognize your landlords might also be facing financial hardship, so you should let them know in writing, it's very important to do that in writing, about your economic circumstances as a result of COVID-19. This is a vital step to protect you, but I know that it's easier for some than for others. So I wanted to let you know a tool that is very simple for you to download and use. Our city's Housing and Community Investment Department is here to help, and we have a sample letter that you can send to your landlord. You go to [h-c-i-d-l-a](https://h-c-i-d-l-a.hcidla.org), hcidla.org, sorry, [.lacity.org](https://lacity.org), so that's hcidla.lacity.org, download the document and fill in your information and email it or print it out or send it to your landlord.

MAYOR GARCETTI: The template has already been downloaded over 50,000 times, it's available in 7 different languages, and just like our staff has worked with more than 20,000 Angelenos to help them navigate rental issues and offer guidance, I want to highlight a few of

those tips tonight. First, make a plan for how and when you'll start paying back your rent. Second, become familiar with the income assistance that is there, if you are worried about never being able to pay that rent looking ahead. You can learn more through initiatives like our Housing Department's Fair Housing Month webinar series. It's online right now, and other programs that are available on that website.

MAYOR GARCETTI: And third, remember that landlords cannot force you to provide documents of lost income or hardship, and you are not required to sign any payment agreements. And finally, remember the Department of Water and Power has halted any disconnections in the City. So you should not have any disruptions in service during this time, and please let us know if you have. And I want to thank again our city councilmembers, Nury Martinez, our council president, councilmember Herb Wesson, who are working to provide rental subsidies in some of the hardest hit households alongside Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell, Councilmember Mike Bonin, Councilmember David Bruce, so many, and really the entire council, who are looking at putting their own discretionary dollars into direct subsidies to help people with food, with rent and other things just as we've done as well.

MAYOR GARCETTI: We are working together and our Housing Department staff is investigating tenant complaints, informing landlords about the rules, so again, any questions, any information you need, please go to hcidla.lacity.org. At the top of this briefing, I mentioned that connection between COVID-19 and climate crisis, but there's a common thread I left out earlier, that both crises are global in nature, scope and impact. Neither respects borders nor boundaries, nor they can be answered by a single state or city or nation alone. I am so proud that Los Angeles has always seen that we are strongest when we are opening ourselves to the world. It's why 63 percent of us are immigrants or the children of immigrants. That is why we have arguably the most diverse set of cultures, not just in the world today, but in human history.

MAYOR GARCETTI: It's why we are a trade capital, it's why we are able to send our movies around the world, it's a two-way street that strengthens our economy, our social fabric and who we are. And I think there's been some wonderful reflections of that as we go through these crises. We've seen consulates and businesses and diasporas, all who call our city home step up to help Los Angeles. We've received personal protective equipment from across the globe, thanks to our collaboration with local diplomats, just this week alone we had 115,000 masks and face coverings, 65,000 gloves, and 54,000 medical face shields headed to local hospitals from the Armenian-, Chinese-, Japanese-, and Taiwanese-American communities.

MAYOR GARCETTI: And folks here in the city too are stepping up, doing amazing things, and I'm pleased to share the news that two amazing angels in our city of angels have stepped up. And I want to thank Shirley and Walter Wang, who have pledged \$1 million to the Angeleno Fund. And like I say every night, to more money we get into the Angeleno Fund, the more money we can hand out directly in those debit cards that help people with the basic things that they need: the food, the medicine and everything they need to get through this tough time. So, thank you so much, Shirley and Walter, for your generosity. May God bless you both and thank you for what you've done.

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MAYOR GARCETTI: Through all of this we are showing each other our strengths as a city, a city government, as a county and region, as a leader in the state in this nation and across the globe. And we need to continue to have those international connections, those philanthropic partners. We need collaboration and cooperation. Here we don't demonized immigrants. We embrace them. We often are them. We see that the threat is not somebody from another culture or who speaks a different language. The threat right now is COVID-19, and by pulling together, we will push through this as one. So let's keep it up and let's continue to stay healthy, let's continue to stay safe, and let's continue to stay at home. All strength and all love, Los Angeles. God bless you all and with that, happy to answer questions. Thank you. And questions for the chief, too.

OPERATOR: The question comes from Jory Rand from ABC 7. Please go ahead.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Hey, Jory.

JORY RAND: Hey, Mr. Mayor, Chief. Thanks for taking our questions today. Two quick ones, I promise they'll be quick. The first is just an update on the streets initiative. How's that going? How much progress has been made, and is it possible to kind to compare where we are now, compared to where we would be had everyone still been on the streets? And the second question is about blood plasma donation and the potential to have those who have gotten over the virus already help those who have right now? The Red Cross put an update today on donations, and I was just curious if the city has any initiative or guidelines for those out there to build up the supplies of plasma for those who might wind up needing it?

MAYOR GARCETTI: Absolutely. Thank you, and I want also thank, I know wasn't the question, but all the folks who have stepped up when we called for people to give blood because hospitals and the Red Cross don't have enough and you can go to the Red Cross. We have had great folks who were asking, "How can I help? How can I volunteer?" Sometimes it's as simple as giving blood. So I want to thank people for that. With plasma, it's still little early and the research is still kind of out. The plasma from folks who may have been exposed to COVID-19, is that something that can make others immune? So we know that is a number of hospitals, research institutions here, and of course, across the country and globe that are looking at that.

MAYOR GARCETTI: But right now we also need blood plasma in general. So that's part of what we hope people can step up and help for our hospitals to have that supply. We are managing this crisis so far, but as we heard from the CDC in the fall, for instance, when could potentially have a second spike, it could be flu, which can be very deadly, and this at the same time, doubling and overwhelming people. So it's never too early to think about what you can do to give back. Hopefully we'll have more to speak about as the research is more conclusive on the blood plasma donations and what it can do to help us all potentially get back to work, back to school.

MAYOR GARCETTI: In terms of the streets initially, let me give you the latest numbers. So 23 total shelters are now online. We had two more shelters online today at 5:00 p.m. They are an average of 95 percent capacity, over 1,000 beds, 1,024 beds. The hotel rooms right now, tier 1,

which remember, folks that have not yet been infected but are living on the streets or a shelter and need to get someplace where they can be safe because they're particularly vulnerable. 749 of those rooms are occupied out of 1,175 and these numbers are growing every day in terms of the number of hotel and motel rooms we're getting.

MAYOR GARCETTI: The tier 2 ones, which are for folks who need to be quarantined if you have tested positive, right now we have 79.5 percent of those. About 300 guests are housed and we have 361 total rooms there as well.

MAYOR GARCETTI: So we're going to continue pushing. The goal is thousands more. We hope that many of the motels and hotels will continue to come in, but I said with those numbers it's not that we have a backlog of 2 or 3,000 people waiting to get in. It's keeping pace with what we expect. And remember, this not going to be an overnight thing. This is something in which we will have months, especially for those that are vulnerable and still have tested negative, where we have to look at taking care of them and housing them. And I was very pleased that some of the guidance from the federal government came through today, also with the deposit of a very large check that came from the third round, the third piece of legislation, the Coronavirus Relief Fund that is for things we can get reimbursed for, but almost \$700 million that will come in.

MAYOR GARCETTI: We were told that that will cover a large percentage of those rooms so that we can continue to accelerate and have people there not just for a couple weeks, but even as some people might go back to work and some people might go back to school in coming weeks and months, we can make sure we are protecting those who are the most vulnerable, people who are over 60 or 65, people who have preexisting conditions, and as we know, disproportionately people experiencing homelessness already have those sorts of medical conditions. So this is not going to be a sprint. Even though it feels like it right now. It is going to be definitely a marathon and it is good to know those resources will be in place, and I hope to work with the county to combine those resources we both got to make sure we have thousands of beds available. Thank you, Jory. Next question.

OPERATOR: Thank you. And that comes from the line of Mary Beth McDade from KTLA Channel 5 News. Go ahead.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Hey, Mary Beth.

MARY BETH MCDADE: Hi, Mr. Mayor. Nice to speak with you again.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Me too.

MARY BETH MCDADE: So we've had many people calling and many viewers calling in, just wanting some clarity on how to get this Angeleno card? Where should they go to get the Angeleno card? Did they miss out? Are there any more Angeleno cards coming down the pipe? I know you just mentioned that some kind people just donated more money towards that. So, could you just help--

MAYOR GARCETTI: Sure.

MARY BETH MCDADE: --some of these viewers, you know, clarify about the Angeleno card?

MAYOR GARCETTI: Absolutely. So we received about 185,000 households in the end once we took people who didn't live in the area or duplicates out for, you know, what will be between probably 10 and 15,000 cards. We'll see. That's how much money there is right now. So, people should have receive something already, those that were selected to come in. They've already started sitting down with our family source centers and some of our great partners in the community to sit down. Some of those cards, hundreds of them already today, and every day moving forward. You should only come in if you got the email saying, or a text or there's other ways that we're calling people if they weren't able to receive a text to let them know that they will be granted those in the first round.

MAYOR GARCETTI: We aren't opening up a second round yet because we had so many people, and we have all those names there. So hopefully we'll be able to take more people off that list, and I know it's frustrating for those who didn't get through but, you know, a lot of people said at the beginning, "If you can get everybody who wants this, should you do it?" I said, "Of course we should." If I had ten of these, I'd give them out. If I have a hundred of them, I'd give them out. But now that we're into the thousands and over ten thousands and household is usually three to five people, we're going to help, you know, somewhere around 50 , 70,000 people in this first round.

MAYOR GARCETTI: So I'll have to spend the next couple of weeks raising more money. I always make the appeal each night, go to mayorsfundla.org. If you can give a dollar, if you can give a million dollars, no matter what you can do, this goes directly to families. There's nothing off the top. It doesn't even come into city coffers. It's done privately, so that we can ensure that it goes immediately, and we have the system to make sure there's not fraud, that people can sit down, they have that interview and that it's easy for them to get something that's a debit card for what they need. So I know there're probably a lot of calls. We get a lot of those too saying, "Hey, I get selected." So right now if you didn't get selected, just hold tight and hopefully we can continue to raise more, and I'm really glad that folks who are volunteering, and I want to thank those frontline workers who are doing this amazing work. LAPD has helped us as well. There's been no incidents, it's gone peacefully. People are coming in and those cards, as we speak, are going out. Today was the first and every day moving forward probably for the next week. Thanks, Mary Beth. Next question.

OPERATOR: And that comes from the line Elex Michaelson from Fox 11 News.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Hey, Elex.

ELEX MICHAELSON: Hi, Mayor. I want to talk bit more about the weather, which I know the chief talked about. You know, this weekend, we're going to have 90-degree temperatures, usually in that situation all the people that don't have air-conditioning will go to a pool, go to a

beach, go to a mall, go to a store, get out of the heat. You're saying you can't do any of that stuff. What do you want people to do other than what the chief suggested, which is to try to find some shade somewhere on a walk?

MAYOR GARCETTI: So, it's stay at home. If you can find someplace in the neighborhood close by and get outside, and try to do that not in the peak hours, but obviously in the morning or in the evening, and if we do have triggers that go beyond the normal triggers that we have even in pre-COVID-19 days, we are looking at cooling centers this weekends, so if we see that the projections are, for instance, in the valley or something, that folks who don't air-conditioning, senior who would be vulnerable to die because of the heat, we will do that. But we'll have to do it with, of course, physical distancing. So we are working really hard with rec and parks, looking at what facilities are available and seeing what we can do to make sure that people don't have any other options, there's a place they can go. You're just going to be sitting there, though. You're not going to necessarily be going out and about, but we really want to reinforce with folks, don't go to the beach. It's still closed. Don't go to the parks. These will be actually quite hot places as well. If you go to a park these days if you're going through a trail, which are closed, it would be very, very hot. So stay at home, do whatever you can to cool down, and if have no other options and we get over those temperatures, the city will, as we always do, and I'm sure the county and others cities as well, we're looking at cooling centers for our seniors and others who have no other place to go. Thanks. Next question, please.

OPERATOR: And that comes from Claudia Peschiutta from KNX News Radio.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Hey, Claudia.

OPERATOR: Go ahead.

CLAUDIA PESCHIUTTA: Wanted to ask if the testing for asymptomatic people will be expanded to include people who are caring for loved ones at home who are in high-risk groups. And also, the LA Times reported with this thick ramp-up in the garment industry to switch over to making masks, that a lot of these people are working in sweatshop conditions, getting less than minimum wage, not having proper ventilation, and distancing measures in place, so if you could address those issues. And I'm wondering also maybe the chief could say if whether they've visited any of these businesses that may not be following the rules. Thank you.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Sure. I don't know if you caught it during the press conference. I know there is a little bit of a delay, but I announced the launching of the LA Protects Business Ambassador Program specifically for that. We also saw those reports. We wanted to ensure, and I spent a good proportion of the press conference today, of the briefing, excuse me, talking about why it was so important that everybody abide by the law. There are laws of what you have to pay people, the physical distancing. So we get those reports or we hear it from media or from workers or from anybody else. We'll be visiting those places and ensuring they comply with Cal/ OSHA, that they comply with the order that we have in the city and the county, and so now we have that infrastructure in place.

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MAYOR GARCETTI: I don't want to take the words out of the chief's mouth, but we just are launching that today as soon as we found out about of this. So I don't believe that there's been any visits yet, but we are prepared. And any business that don't abide by it, first we start with the ambassadors. LAPD would come second, and we will ensure that people are abiding by the law, that nobody is cheating any workers, that there are not sweatshops. I've worked for years on this issue, and I have a little bit of skin in the game. My grandfather and great-grandfather, they were both tailors. My great-grandfather was an immigrant. His son made men's suits here in downtown, was a union shop. Treating workers in this industry is absolutely critical to me, as well as saving this industry, and those are not mutually exclusive.

MAYOR GARCETTI: So we praise the industry for stepping up and protecting for those bad actors that aren't abiding by the law when they do it, that is unacceptable and we will enforce the law. In terms of the testing asymptomatic people, we just opened the aperture pretty wide to a new thing today. So I would love to, not yet. We believe that we have enough tests to be able to now offer all these critical workers, the grocery and pharmacy workers that are doing a critical retail work, our first responders, our medical personnel, and government workers who are on the front lines, that testing for asymptomatic. But stay tuned. Each day, each moment we get more tests, each time we have a new testing center or build capacity, we're adding more. Those priorities are in senior homes, people who are experiencing homelessness and also, as you say, maybe some of the folks who are caring for folks. So that could be one the next categories. But we're very excited today after a long way to finally move forward with asymptomatic testing for those workers we depend on and who most at risk. Thanks. Next question.

OPERATOR: Thank you. Steve Gregory from KFI News. Your line is open.

STEVE GREGORY: Hey, Mr. Mayor. Good afternoon.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Good afternoon.

STEVE GREGORY: For Chief Moore, real quick. And I apologize if you talked, if I missed the first couple of minutes in your presentation. How is it going for testing within your department? And one of the things that really kind of caught my attention today was that pretty dramatic standoff on the 91 Freeway when you had multiple units out there, multiple officers working within very close quarters, in very tactical situations. And I'm wondering how that's impacting operations with respect to this lack of social distancing in those tactical situations? And I'm just wanted to know on the mayor's side, I just wondered, you know, what businesses would you like to see sort of reopen in a kind of soft rollout? What kinds of businesses could you foresee opening first and what would you like to see open first? I mean, first thing I think of is, like, I don't know about you, but I desperately need a haircut, you look like you got your hair cut. I don't--

MAYOR GARCETTI: No.

STEVE GREGORY: -- where you get your haircut because I certainly need one. Thank you.

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MAYOR GARCETTI: We always get this on social media. I saw Mike Bonin have to show the physical proof that his husband had shaved his head. All I've done is take my razor to my sideburns if they look shorter, but this is either how slowly or how fast it grows. So I haven't had a haircut, but I did finally get my electric shears yesterday so my wife has watched some videos. If I come back tomorrow and it's messed up, I'm not going to throw her under the bus but you know it's not because I've gone to a secret barber shop.

MAYOR GARCETTI: And I think for a lot of us, we want to see some of those basic things. That would be a great thing to see open, if we could figure out the social distancing for our salons and barber shops. I think there's some basic retail that people need to get back to, getting clothes for their kids, some of the things that we're all ordering via mail order, but we have to look at this two different ways. What is the most necessary that as we've been at home we need to have a little bit of time to get out and to get open, and what can we make safest because we, just because we need something, if we can't safely open something, we won't do it. And just because we can open something safely, but it might not be the highest need, we may wait a little bit longer. So I think that it's going to be very important. I've talked a lot with Dr. Ferrer, folks like Robert Garcia, the mayor of Long Beach, our second-biggest city, and some of my other peer brother and sister mayors, that we want to talk about that right now and figure out some of these things together because as we've already seen when Ventura, Orange County is doing something different from LA.

MAYOR GARCETTI: It's very confusing for folks, and I really appreciated what the governor said, that he hopes that there will be movement together, and every community is different, and I respect that, but I think we want to make sure, an outbreak that happens in a neighboring county will affect us, it'll come here and vice versa. If we do the wrong thing, that can kill people in Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, Orange County, etcetera. But I think some of those basic things that can also help folks stand up would be the ones that would come first. And with that, let me hand it over to the chief, whose hair looks pretty good too, but you know, it's getting longer every day, to talk about the stats for his folks and I have the LAFD stats if you want to know how many people have tested positive in the fire department too. Chief?

MICHEL MOORE: So in Los Angeles as of this morning for LAPD, we have 71 of our employees that have tested positive for COVID-19, and the makeup of that is about 50 of those individuals are sworn members of the workforce, the remaining 21 are civilian. The combination of workplace issues in the sense that you have our offices that are on the street, you talked about the arrest this afternoon, a lengthy pursuit involving an armed individual, a person believed to be armed committing a violent crime. When those officers come to that determination, and now they're met with taking that person into custody, we have challenges. We have the inability at that point to start donning protecting equipment in the sense of masks and gloves and so forth. At times you've got to be careful about the person being armed and whether or not that person poses a deadly risk, a threat to us immediately.

MICHEL MOORE: So the efforts that we have is that in those instances we're reminding officers to watch their safety, safety in law enforcement is a primary, is our primary focus each day as they go out and serve a community that wants them in their community. We also are

providing them with protective equipment, masks, gloves, goggles as the situation allows. Certainly most of our encounters in the field are cooperative. We are dealing with maybe a traffic stop or talking to a crime victim over a particular, some type of a loss of property or otherwise, and we are practicing social distancing, standing back. We're taking phone calls for reports instead of requiring people to come to the front desk.

MICHEL MOORE: So, we're trying to distance our officers from that, from what is a people business. But there are instances, many instances, in which our officers have to come in contact. In instances in which they believe the person is symptomatic or has tested positive for COVID, our officers are taking precautions, for instance, they're noting and documenting circumstances. Today, the reason why I started my remarks by thanking Mayor Garcetti for his effort of opening the aperture on testing, is we have had a number of officers who've had contact with suspicious individuals, and they are not symptomatic. And because of the lack of available testing, we've had to prioritize and not give those officers that opportunity for that testing by the availability of additional testing kits now, we're going to be able to open that up. And I know that's going to relieve a lot of our men and women who are worried about going home and potentially infecting their family.

MICHEL MOORE: We lost, just two weeks ago, a young wife of one our detectives, who he was asymptomatic positive with COVID, wasn't aware of it, and his wife came down with the virus and unfortunately, a tragic loss of her life as she was unable to recover from it. So this effort is to monitor, to provide testing immediately when the mayor established testing centers. He established a lane for police and fire so that we would have dedicated testing each day under suspicious or questionable circumstances, again, will broaden that up.

MICHEL MOORE: The numbers overall, though, are improving for Los Angeles, for LAPD in the sense that while we're seeing incrementally ones and twos as far as increases in positive COVID tests, we are a workforce of 13,000. And a week ago, week and a half ago, we had more than 200 of our personnel quarantined and at home isolated for fear of them being COVIDpositive. The vast majority have turned out to be common flu, allergies and not COVIDpositive, and they've been able to come back to work. That number this morning is 140 of our personnel that are currently quarantined and isolated. But I'm also happy to say that 24 of the 71 have also come back to work. They've survived this virus, they're fully recovered and they're back on the front lines serving Angelenos. So overall we're doing okay. I have a conversations each week with then Superintendent Beck of Chicago and Commissioner Shea of New York City.

MICHE MOORE: Both agencies that have suffered loss of life, as well as their tremendous higher, much higher percentage of their personnel afflicted by this virus. We are talking, we are treating tactics and stories and understanding how we are going about very similar work and how we can prevent seeing some of the impact that those agencies have seen. And yet we learn every day about our work and how to try to continue to keep that number. I'd like for us to close this process at 71 positive COVID virus members of this workforce, but unfortunately, I know too well that our engagement in the field will require otherwise.

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MAYOR GARCETTI: Thank you, chief, and LAFD, our fire department has 20 cases, 19 sworn and 1 civilian, of which 14 have already returned to duty, just as chief said, I think it might even have more recent number 25 officers who have returned to duty, so we are really pleased that those numbers, while they were small, most folks have been able to return to duty and are healthy. And thank you for mentioning. I hadn't set it up publicly, but I'll let the chief have said that and our heart goes to the detective who has lost his wife, we spoke and it's just one of the tragedies of this is all of us can't be together to mourn together, but our heart goes to him and to his children. Next question, please.

OPERATOR: Thank you. That comes from Jintak Han from UCLA Daily Bruin. Please go ahead.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Good evening.

JINTAK HAN: Hey, Mayor.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Hi.

JINTAK HAN: So I have a question about the--I would like to ask for clarification on the test expansion. So when you say all essential workers, does that refer to all the essential workers as in your original order back in March? And in terms of what happened around city hall today, there were a lot of--a couple of protests going on, both for and against the stay-at-home orders. Does that affect your decision on whether to--and the stay-at-home orders either early or extended, and to Chief Moore, what are the implications for the LAPD regarding these protests?

MAYOR GARCETTI: So let me start there and Chief Moore can talk about that then I'll come back to the test. No, I mean, I respect deeply everyone's First Amendment rights, and I respect deeply protestors, whether they're protesting for something or against something and I never don't listen to that, but I have to say what's guiding me is science, is medicine, is also history and the experience of other cities. I'm just not going to play with people's lives. We are going to look at safe ways, hopefully in the weeks to come, based on the advice from our Public Health Department and our Public Health professionals like Dr. Barbara Ferrer, some of our industry leaders who want to protect their employees, want to protect their people as they propose with her how we could open up some of those places and spaces. Educational leaders, higher education, our superintendents, school districts, etcetera, that has to be done not just by emotion, it has to be done with our heads and by looking at history, by recognizing that even when you do a good job like you all have done here in Los Angeles.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Remember that story I've shared of San Francisco in 1918 did a great job the first round, saw everything come down, and opened it up and had 5,000 more cases in a month. If we opened everything up, we'd see 95 percent of this county infected by August 1st, according the best projection I've seen that would be tens of thousands of deaths. That would be hospitals overwhelmed, and it would mean the economy shutting down anyway. So for folks who want the economy to get back, we have to keep doing this based on the medical advice. That doesn't mean forever, and I appreciate everybody expressing their frustrations, but even if

there are some who are saying, "Open it up," I look also at that polling locally and nationally. People do trust this, people are more scared about opening up too early than too late. And that will continue to guide me. Chief?

MICHEL MOORE: So, thank you. So what we are seeing not here, not just here in Los Angeles, but it is really occurring regionally and across the country is protests, protest activities, First Amendment right activity, people expressing their views. They are expressing their views on various things such as the stay-at-home order or rent control, various aspects of environmental issues, saving Earth Day, I am sure there was a protest somewhere in our region talking about that. We're a country that is made up of a (unintelligible) that gets to exercise democracy in a public place, in a public court. And for LAPD, we are going to facilitate that, and I want to say that today's march, or today's car protests, and that's really kind of unique, thank COVID-19, one of the attributes of it will go down, is how protest activity moved to the car.

MICHEL MOORE: And it was not so much marches and banners, walking on the street and sidewalk or blocking necessarily curb to curb and in assemblies, to which I am very thankful for because that is keeping the public health in mind, both as an individual in the surrounding community. But they've resorted to staying in cars. And that I am thankful for. I am also thankful seeing that those expressions are being in the civic center, in downtown commercial areas. Those are good venues for people to demonstrate and for their voices to be heard, for banners and for their honking of their horns or expression through their voices about the protests, about their grievance with government or their grievance with industry, whichever day are.

MICHEL MOORE: There may be, they are being peacefully. They are not breaking the laws of property damage or violence, and it is not just here in Los Angeles that we are seeing that. We're seeing that regionally and across the country, and to America I say, "Thank you for that." And we are watching that very closely because they have in times of such turmoil and crises, that can change because of fringe elements that want to come in and try to take that hostage and grab that. So LAPD, we are watching this very closely, and we will continue to facilitate those types of car protests, those types of disturbances or those types of demonstrations.

MICHEL MOORE: But let me get into just one attribute that has caused me concern and that law enforcement, LAPD, that we're acting on. And that is one of the attributes that we've seen in the last six months or so, and it wasn't just specific to the COVID-19. Was a shift in protest activities to private residences of elected officials and others, and targeting those residences with protests that are not just presence in a banner or walking about on a sidewalk, or using amplified devices that are assaultive in their voices, in the terms, in the language that they use, that is intimidating, disruptive and interfering with the lives of individuals living in their own private space.

MICHEL MOORE: And there are restrictions to that type of expression. And LAPD will continue to work with organizers who go those type of locations to ensure that they recognize the limits of their First Amendment rights. And also that if they go beyond those limits, that that constitutes civil disobedience, and that there are laws and there are violations that they came be

engaged in. And if they choose to do that, that our effort is to respect that and that we will act accordingly and that there will be consequences in sense of a citation or arrest. But in that entire dialogue, again, it's the expression that we are going to support and facilitate and our efforts to keep it lawful, peaceful without infringing on people's rights, and if that goes in that latter area, then we'll work with the organizers and individuals to warn them and admonish them, but also to hold them accountable because it is a balancing, if you will, as far as those expressions.

MAYOR GARCETTI: To your first question, just quickly because it is a great question, I want to make sure that people aren't confused out there. There is a difference between our essential workers and our permitted workers. The orders do have some permitted workers, people in construction sites, for instance, people who might be the engineers and architects doing critical work around that, other folks who might be in an office setting in areas that are permitted to make sure payroll gets out, taxes are paid, etcetera. Those aren't yet open. This is for essential workers, and I try to say exactly who those are. Those are retail workers on the frontline, those are our first responders, those are government workers that are working in COVID-19 roles and those are also the health workers that we see in our hospitals or any health. So those work categories can, without symptoms, get testing as of now. That is the group we all say, we want to protect, but we are all say thank you for doing this work, but now they can. So anybody in those kind of supply chains, those roles, or those positions. Thanks. Next question, please.

OPERATOR: And that comes from David Zahniser of LA Times.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Hey, Dave.

OPERATOR: Go ahead.

MAYOR GARCETTI: How are you doing?

DAVID ZAHNISER: Hi. The next question is for the police chief, but of course you're both welcome to answer. Coronavirus was triggered with financial crisis at city hall, and at the LAPD, it looks like there's going to be a couple of thousands civilian employees furloughed for 26 days. So I am wondering, what will be the impact from these furloughs? And given the recent drop in crime, will the city have a hiring freeze for police officers in the next budget year. And finally, should police officers experience the same reductions as their civilian counterparts as the LAPD, and if not, why not?

MICHEL MORE: Okay. I did not hear the last question.

MAYOR GARCETTI: It is whether not they should have the same sacrifices that other ones do and if not, why not.

MICHEL MOORE: So the mayor's proposed budget, which I clearly understanding in how difficult a budget it was given the financial collapse of this city, if you will, by the devastating blow to our revenue, the standing down of this economy because of the necessary elements to be safer at home has had a devastating impact on the city being able to provide basic services. And

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I am pleased and proud of a mayor who supported public safety first. And he delivered a budget that protected police and fire in our most important activities. But yet at the same time I recognize that every city department cannot be the same size and the same nature that we walked into this pandemic with.

MICHEL MOORE: We are going to walk out, we have to walk out a different department. And that means how do we change our operations? But it also means a scarcity of resources. And at this proposal at this moment, while it would be able to support our sworn staffing levels at where we're at today, which I am grateful for. Our civilian staff, we will ask for them to take furloughs, two days each month and 26 over the course of a year, which amounts to nearly a 10 percent cut in their wage. And that will have an impact not only then financially, and I made a message, an internal message today, that I am delivering department-wide in the next two days, to talk to them about how I recognize and we recognized as a city how severe of an asp that is.

MICHEL MOORE: But we also must deal with reality and with the crisis performance. And we must do first things first, and that is provide for a uniform police force in our streets, a detective workforce that work and follow up on critical investigations and a civilian workforce that handles the 911 calls, the jail operations and other critical functions. And while every member of our organization is critical, they must be some cuts in some places. We will work with the mayor's office and we look forward to a time with our economy restored and revenue restored in which we will be able to restore not just furloughs, and back to full staffing, but be able to restore some of these other services and desires, but we are not going to be the same department that enters this pandemic.

MICHEL MOORE: My commitment to all of us, I met today with the president of police Protective League president, Craig Lolly, and we shared and talked about how do we as a department work with this new budget and how do we strive to find money, to find revenue so that we can afford everyone who is on the payroll? And let me close by saying that with this devastation to the degree that we have experienced, I am grateful that we did not see a cutback in the number of employees with layoffs and separations that could have been a consequence. So this is a tough budget, it is one of the most devastating ones I have seen in my nearly 40 years of service with this city. But we will weather it, we will get through this and we will become a stronger department because it.

MAYOR GARCETTI: And let me just add to that, Dave, two things. We have less money and people understand that, which is why we have to make cuts. And while the chief very generously talked about why that was important, if somebody wants somebody to blame, those are my decisions in the budget that I wrote. And I talked with civilian employees who, a couple of them said, "We're just so thankful in this environment to be working when less than 50 percent of Angelenos are, when our employment rate is going to go to 20 percent." I think people understand how extraordinary these times are, which is not at all to lessen what 10 percent less means to a family.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Even officers who aren't getting the furloughs, we did put in this budget for instance, a reduction of overtime in certain areas. There will be less pay to take home in that

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combination of your base pay and overtime. So everybody will be making sacrifices, but one sacrifice I was willing to make, even in a tough budget year, is to see rapes and murders go unsolved, to allow crimes to go up, to have people out there on the streets not have 911 calls answered. When they are the victims of domestic violence, to not have officers roll out in a crisis like this. So that was just something that is non-negotiable.

MAYOR GARCETTI: But it will not be a hiring freeze, we will hire to strength inside of our police department. We are going to have to figure out how do classes in a COVID-19 setting. We want to keep the department at the same level. If you let that dip down, you usually wind up paying more in overtime. And that can be the more expensive than having that level of officers. So we will continue, not just with that, but also look at our firefighters. My God, they are out on the line making transportation, bringing transports of folks with COVID-19. Many of them are away from their families because they don't want to get them infected. We've seen some of them already across the country lose their lives. So those were two areas that were non-negotiable for me, but to think that there are not cuts in those departments will be a mistake. And I take full responsibility for those difficult decisions. Next question, please.

OPERATOR: Thank you. And that comes from Mateo Cedoni from KTTN News.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Hi, Mateo.

MATEO CEDONI: Good afternoon, Mayor. I was in Skid Row filming the free testing to homeless people and I'd like to know why is it so important to test homeless people for COVID-19. And also, do you consider still possible for the city to avoid the spread of the virus among them?

MAYOR GARCETTI: Absolutely. I was passionate from the beginning about making sure that Angelenos experiencing homelessness didn't become the main victims of COVID-19. And I want to be very clear with everybody out there. While I think we've had amazingly strong numbers so far, all it's going to take is two, three weeks of something spreading that we could see an explosion. So I worked very closely with county public health on asking them their advice. They said "Take people off the streets and put them in spaced shelters." We have done that, as I mentioned, for over a thousand beds already.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Second, we worked together with the state and the county, and now with federal dollars hopefully that have just coming in, to have hotels and motel rooms as well. But we need testing on the streets, and I am proud to report that we've had over 2,500 medical visits to check in on how people on the streets are doing, and those numbers continue to climb every day. It's probably, in fact, higher today. We have done testing with doctors who already treat people who are experiencing homelessness, as well as now experimenting with can we pop up where there's really dense encampments in places like Skid Row, walk-up testing centers. And I am very proud of those numbers, nearly 300 over the last three days. And we're just going to keep doing that. And you know who is staffing that, they have our county public health folks helping us out.

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MAYOR GARCETTI: But LAFD, firefighters. who again are putting their bodies on the line, who have done this safely, who have done this in a human way, who are angels to these folks who already are so vulnerable and susceptible. And so we are very pleased that that's happening and it will continue. And I hope with our senior homes, our tests for folks who are experiencing homelessness, those critical workers that we can continue to see those areas grow and our medical workers of course, too, which are part of the critical workers to make sure they are safe because this is not going to be a short battle. No matter how much we open and/or close back and forth this city, we have got to steel ourselves for the fact that this will be probably more than a year that we are going to be in this place where life will be different, where we are going to be susceptible, and where we want to try to keep the deaths to the absolute minimum that we can. Thank you. Next questions. I believe they're English/Spanish ones?

OPERATOR: Thank you. And it comes Edith Granero from Univision. Go ahead.

EDITH GRANERO: Hi, Mayor.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Hi. Buenas tardes.

EDITH GRANERO: Thank you for taking my call. I have actually wanted to see if you could answer a question that was already asked in regards the Angeleno card.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Yes.

EDITH GRANERO: We have also received a lot of viewers calling in to our news room who applied for the Angeleno Card but they were not selected this time around. Their question is will there be another opportunity for them? And will they have to reapply?

MAYOR GARCETTI: So, I say – I think I already said it in English, so I will go straight to Spanish. Si--

EDITH GRANERO Dígame.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Si tú has aplicado por la tarjeta Angeleno, Angelena, no tengo bastante dinero para toda la gente en este primer fase de este, pero es mi esperanza que en el futuro con más donaciones tenemos más dinero y nosotros podemos dar más de esta tarjetas. Es nuestra estimación que más o menos 50,000 persona en más de 10,000 casas recibirá una de estas tarjetas. Pero hay más de 180,000 aplicaciones. Pero no, no es necesario re-aplicar en el futuro. Tenemos esta información, tenemos estas personas en cuando tenemos más dinero, nosotros podemos seleccionar en una manera igual a todo más y más familias. Y si tú tienes dar dinero a este fondo de Mayor's Fund, por favor, da esta noche su donación en la, sorry, mayorsfundla.org. mayorsfundla.org. Pero tengo mucho orgullo de la generosidad de la gente, las fundaciones, las compañías de Los Ángeles que han dado, y los individuales porque es la diferencia por una familia y cada donación ayuda otra familia. Gracias. Next question, please. Is there another question? Is that it?

OPERATOR: Thank you. And now to the line of Gabriel Huerta from Telemundo.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Hola, Gabriel.

GABRIEL HUERTA: Gracias, señor alcalde. Buenas tardes.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Buenas tardes.

GABRIEL HUERTA: Este fin de semana sabemos se esperan altas temperaturas. Muchas personas podrían comenzar a salir a las calles, a los parques, a las playas. ¿La ciudad y la policía podría imponer multa, o cuál es la advertencia que piden al público para que no se violen las restricciones sanitarias? Gracias.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Todos nosotros queremos regresar a las playas, a nuestros parques, otros espacios públicos, pero es necesario quedarse en casa. Es el mensaje del jefe de policía, y cuando nosotros vemos personas en estas áreas, por favor llámanos porque cuando todos nosotros pueden quedarse en casa, el día cuando nosotros podemos regresar a estos espacios, regresará más rápidamente, y desafortunadamente tenemos personas, especialmente con el clima, el clima es mejor. Nosotros queremos regresar a estos parques y a la playa, a las calles, pero la historia es claro. Cuando las ciudades que tienen éxito con los primeros fases de una batalla contra un virus regresa a la vida normal, desafortunadamente este virus regresará y este virus matará mucha gente.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Cuando tenemos el aviso de Dra. Ferrer, el Departamento de Salud Pública, nosotros podemos abrir la apertura más para más tiendas, más espacios, más escuelas y este no es final, este es un tiempo muy difícil, con mucha tristeza y miedo. Pero no es final. Tenemos las oportunidad con nuestras acciones a salvar vidas, a proteger la ciudad y regresar más rápidamente a una vida normal con sus acciones. Gracias.

MAYOR GARCETTI: So with that I am going to turn to my address in Spanish. I want to thank again Chief Moore for joining us. He may have zipped that while I am doing this instead of just standing there, so I appreciate him greatly and I appreciate all of our government workers, I went by Kaiser Hospital last night, at Kaiser Sunset. And I just want to send love to all of our medical personnel, doctors, nurses, the janitors, the techs, everybody. I was able to see a hundred-plus of them at eight o'clock with my daughter and to thank you directly. I can't get to every hospital, but I know our love continues to go out to each one of you. So with that en español.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Muy buenas tardes, Los Ángeles. Hoy es el día de la Tierra. Estoy orgulloso que nuestra ciudad es un líder en tomar acción para combatir el cambio climático. Les invito a reflexionar sobre cómo están relacionados esta crisis de salud y de nuestro ambiente. Un estudio reciente de Harvard indica que existe una relación entre los niveles de contaminación del aire y la tasa de muerte de COVID-19. En ciudades como la nuestra que tiene ciertos niveles de contaminación del aire, esperaríamos tener números más altos de personas hospitalizadas por esto.

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Aunque hemos avanzado en la lucha contra la contaminación del aire, es importante continuar este trabajo para reducir nuestras ambiciones y a proteger nuestra salud pública.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Ahora comparto los datos de hoy. Hoy hubieron 1,318 nuevos casos en el condado de Los Ángeles, llegando a un total de 16,435 casos en total. En la ciudad tuvimos 647 nuevos casos, llegando a un total de 7,551. Y hoy fallecieron 66 personas más en el condado. Este es el número dos de casos más grande en estas semanas pasadas, llegando a un total de 729 angelenos que fallecieron. Las muertes están redoblando cada siete a ocho días. Y 15 de los fallecidos tenían entre 18 y 65 años. Nueve tenían condiciones médicas subyacentes.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Esta enfermedad puede matar a quien sea. Y oramos con las familias, cada familia que ha perdido a alguien. Estamos haciendo todo lo posible para apoyar a nuestros hospitales. Empezando mañana estaremos ofreciendo pruebas también para los trabajadores críticos aunque no tengan síntomas de COVID-19. Este es buenas noticias. Y gracias al mensaje del gobernador Newsom porque el tiempo, no solamente a dar pruebas a personas con síntomas, pero también estos trabajadores críticos sin síntomas también, incluyendo nuestros primeros socorristas, médicos profesionales, trabajadores de supermercados y farmacias y trabajadores críticos del gobierno.

MAYOR GARCETTI: En nuestros hospitales tenemos 1,299 camas disponibles. Entre ellas 246 están en las unidades de cuidados intensivos, y tenemos 1,143 respiradores. Tenemos 34 sitios de pruebas en la ciudad y el condado, y tenemos capacidad de hacer pruebas para 12,200 personas al día y al final del día hoy, hemos hecho pruebas a más de 93,000 personas en estos sitios. Puede hacer una cita para una prueba en la página coronavirus.lacity.org/testing. Todo lo que hacemos es para protegerlos a todos ustedes. Lo he dicho antes, tomaremos acción contra cualquier empresa no esencial que continúa en operación para que cumpla con la orden más protegido en casa.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Nuestros embajadores de empresas han visitado 1,700 empresas, y algunas cerraron sus puertos. Gracias. Pero la policía fue a visitar las 1,500 que no cumplieron inmediatamente con la orden, y 86 negocios se refirieron a la oficina del fiscal municipal. Tus acciones pueden matar sus vecinos, sus familias, miembros de su lugar de trabajo. Es muy importante para toda de Los Ángeles a parar sus acciones que puedan tomar la vida de una persona aquí en Los Ángeles. Pueden avisarnos de empresas que están violando la orden en la página coronavirus.lacity.org/businessviolation.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Además hoy lanzamos el programa Embajadores de negocios LA Protects, quienes se ocupan de asegurar que los empleados en negocios esenciales estén protegidos y ganando un sueldo justo. Los embajadores se comunicarán con las autoridades necesarias sobre cualquier empresa que piensen debe ser referido a ellos. Para personas con dificultad pagando su renta, el Departamento de Vivienda e Inversión Comunitaria está ofreciendo un documento para ayudarle a comunicarse con el propietario de su vivienda de alquiler por escrito sobre su situación económica para protegerse legalmente. Este documento se encuentra en la página hcidla.lacity.org. Imprímelo y llénalo para dárselo al propietario de su vivienda. Está disponible en siete idiomas incluyendo, por supuesto, español. Y aquí les paso

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otras sugerencias para navegar esta situación. Haga un plan para cuándo y cómo va a poder pagar su renta de nuevo. Aprenda acerca de los recursos para asistencia financiera disponibles.

MAYOR GARCETTI: Y recuerda que su propietario no le puede obligar a presentar documentos para comprobar dificultad financiera, y no está obligado a firmar acuerdos para pago en este momento. Y finalmente el Departamento de Agua y Energía ha suspendido desconexiones de servicio durante este tiempo. Y yo sé también, y es difícil por los propietarios, y es mi mensaje a Washington: Ayuda los inquilinos y los propietarios. Los dos necesitan ayuda. Este es un crisis de todos nosotros. Y gracias al Concejo Municipal por ofrecer subsidios para la renta para nuestros hogares más afectados, permitiéndoles pagar una parte de su renta. Estamos todos en esto juntos, ayudándonos el uno al otro. Entonces quédense en buena salud, quédense en casa. Quédense protegidos y gracias por todos sus acciones. Fuerza y amor, Los Ángeles y hasta mañana. We will see you tomorrow, everybody. Stay safe.