



May 27, 2020

Dear Friends,

Last night, Mayor Garcetti announced that the City of Los Angeles is moving into the next phase of the City's [Safer At Home](#) reopening plan that includes a careful and deliberate roll out to make it as safe as possible moving forward.

Here's the good news:

He announced that as of today (Wednesday) all retail establishments may reopen for in-person shopping at 50-percent capacity. Every store will have to adopt County [safety protocols](#) to ensure the safety of workers and customers, alike. **This does NOT yet include personal services like hair salons, nail salons, and barbershops. It also does NOT yet allow for dine-in services at restaurants.**

Every business (in every industry) that is reopening should download a [Safer LA: Tool Kit for Business](#) to follow safety protocols, checklists, and print posted notices for customers at the website: <https://corona-virus.la/Business>.

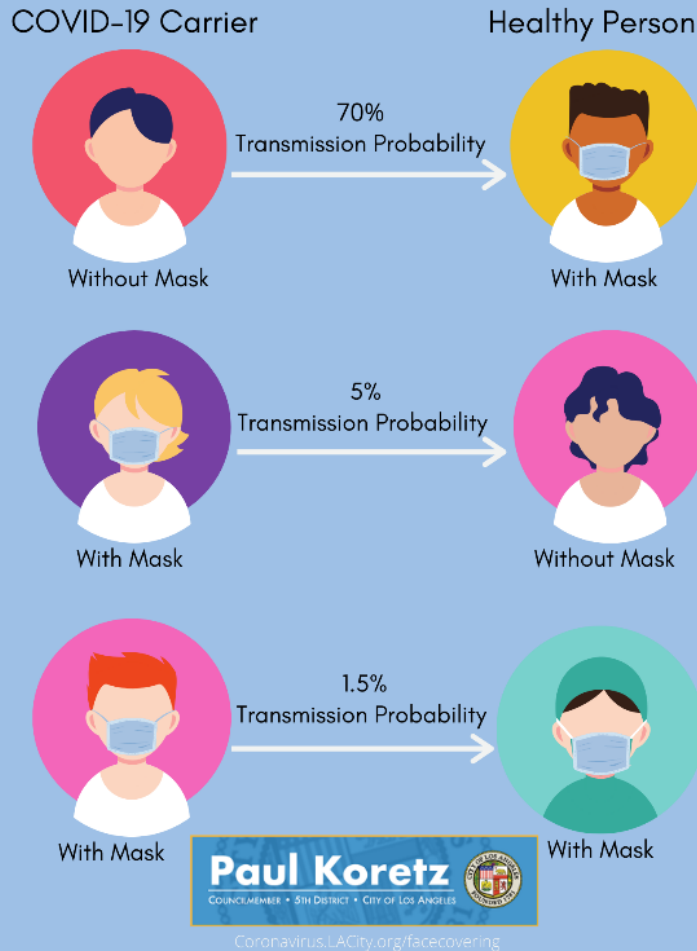
Also, houses of worship are now allowed to open at either 25% or 100 person capacity (whichever is fewest). Download a [Safer LA: Tool Kit for Houses of Worship](#) here.

Now here's what could be the bad news:

We need to proceed carefully and deliberately or it could bring a flurry of new cases, more deaths, and a possible shutdown again. This is not what anyone wants to see.

Please make the choice to protect yourself, your family, and your neighbors. Remember, if we all run to the beaches and don't follow the protocols; if people walk around in public not wearing masks; if we go to religious services without a mask and social distancing; then we will backtrack on the progress that we have made toward recovery. The outcome is up to everyone.

Why Face Protection Is Important During COVID – 19



*The most important way to make sure things continue to improve is for everyone to strictly adhere to the City's face covering rules when they leave their homes and will be near other people. **It is the single most important barrier to aid in the fight against COVID-19.** Wearing a mask is even more important as retail and business restrictions are gradually eased.*

You can learn more about the City's guidance on face coverings [here](https://coronavirus.lacity.org/facecovering).

The future of our collective health and well-being is up to all of us. Stay safe, stay home as much as possible, and wear your mask when you leave your home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Koretz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Here to Serve

My office, like all City of Los Angeles offices, is following recommended protocols such as social distancing and working remotely to slow the spread of the coronavirus. That said, my staff and I are always readily available to help with your questions, concerns, and needs during this difficult period. We can be reached by phone at 213-473-7005, 323-866-1828 (West LA), or 818-971-3088 (Encino) and through email paul.koretz@lacity.org. Since we are experiencing a higher-than-normal volume of calls, feel free to email the staff member you wish to contact directly. The accompanying [link](#) contains those e-mail addresses.

I know these are really confusing times and that new information is changing quickly, so please continue to check and verify official information through these credible resources:

- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health: <http://ph.lacounty.gov/>
- City of LA Emergency Coronavirus Info: <https://corona-virus.la/>

- CD5 Resources: <http://www.councilmemberpaulkoretz.com/covid-19-news>
- Visit the Los Angeles County website: <http://lacounty.gov/covid19>
- Center for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/>
- Los Angeles Unified School District: <https://achieve.lausd.net>
- Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority: <https://www.lahsa.org>
- Sign up for emergency notifications from the City of LA at NotifyLA.com
- Text your zip code to the number 888777 to receive [emergency text alerts](#)
- Call 3-1-1 for City of Los Angeles Service and referral hotline
- Call 2-1-1 - Los Angeles Countys 24/7 emergency and referral hotline