April 6, 2020

RE: New Guidance for Drive-In Events

As we continue to adhere to the State of California’s Stay at Home Order, the Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH) discourages any organization or individual from holding any type of drive-in event. While asking people to remain in their vehicles while attending events may seem like an alternative way to gather without a risk of exposure to COVID-19, significant problems may arise such as:

- People may attend from other areas or regions (where events may have been closed due to high rates of COVID-19 spread) thus potentially creating a higher risk for COVID-19 cases in our area
- Members from multiple households may come together in a confined space of a single vehicle (especially if attendance is limited by parking)
- People may exit their vehicles during the event for multiple reasons potentially leading to several others following
- Traveling may lead to frequent stops (restroom breaks, snack breaks, etc.) furthering the risk for COVID-19 exposure

For the reasons listed above, drive-in events do not qualify as an exception to the ban of mass gatherings currently in place. We encourage and suggest organizers use virtual group meetings, conference calls, or other means of convening that do not break any guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, California Department of Public Health, and the FCDPH.

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