

Quarterly Community Issues

2021: January - March

KQNC 6:04 am– 6:06 pm Weekdays

January

01: VACCINEROLLOUT

Sacramento is generally considered a hub for the medical industry. The county says that means getting vaccines to the first priority group — health care workers and nursing home staff and residents — could take a long time. After that comes other frontline workers - like teachers, law enforcement, farmworkers ... and the elderly and medically fragile. It's still unclear when healthy people not in those jobs will get the vaccine.

01: NLCOVIDWORKRULES

If you can't work remotely and have spent any time *at* work the past couple months, you may have received an email from HR telling you that a colleague tested positive for the coronavirus, or was exposed to someone with it. Starting this year, employers will *have* to do that. The new law requires written notification of potential exposures in the workplace. Labor attorney Caroline Donelan says employers have an ethical duty to keep their workers safe, and many have already been doing this.

05: SNOWH20

The most recent state snow survey shows Northern California's snowpack is less than average.

05: SACTENANTPROTECTIONS

The program was put in place in 2019 and amended last year to protect renters from evictions during the pandemic. But councilmember Katie Valenzuela said the program is not providing the protections it should for tenants struggling to pay rent. Valenzuela says she hopes more innovative solutions to strengthen protections for renters can be considered.

06: RACIALPROFILINGREPORT

The data was collected from the state's largest law enforcement agencies including sheriff and police departments in LA, San Francisco and Sacramento. Of the roughly 4 million traffic and pedestrian stops analyzed, the report found police were more likely to pull over those officers identified as Hispanic men.

06: NEWSOMSMALLBIZHELP-2WAY

Governor Gavin Newsom is proposing a massive infusion of cash for small businesses hurt by the pandemic. It's called the Equitable Recovery for California's Businesses and Jobs Plan.

07: CACAPITOLDEMO

As rioters stormed the U.S. Capitol building in Washington D.C..the scene outside of California's Capitol was tame by comparison.

07: CAPITOLSAFETY

The CHP provides security outside the Capitol. A spokesperson said the agency worked with local police and had officers ready to respond to protect both people and property. No permits were issued for the rally, which resulted in some confrontations with police but no breaches of the building.

08: DRYDRY

It's rained and snowed a bit recently in Northern California, but overall the state has had a dry water year.

08: NLMIDWIVES

California's nurse midwives will soon be able to practice independently. Maternal health groups say the change could reduce deaths among African American moms and babies.

11: HOUSINGUNITREAX

Newsom wants to create a Housing Accountability Unit. This would mean spending about 4 million dollars in his just-released budget so that a team of experts at the state's housing department can help local governments ... with things like technical assistance to navigate complex state housing requirements.

11: HEALTHBUDGET

Sixty-two-percent of the money allotted to Health and Human Services would go to Medi-Cal. The total spent on the program would be up \$5 billion from last year. Part of that is because more people are expected to sign up for Medi-Cal—the state estimates the caseload will jump about 12% in the next year, and ultimately cover 40% of California's population. But the program won't expand to cover undocumented immigrants over age 65 A promise Newsom made before the pandemic but then shelved.

12: LEGRETURN-1

The resolution was authored by Chad Mayes, the Assembly's former top Republican who defected from the party in 2019 and is now a political independent. He says in the wake of Trump's supporters forcing their way into the capitol last week, the President should step down, or be removed via the 25th Amendment or impeachment.

12: LEGRETURN-2

We would like schools to be open as soon as possible. But we also want to do it as safely as possible. And so that that's going to take a little bit of time. Ting says he wants to continue to press EDD, the state's embattled unemployment agency, to get payments out in a timely manner. Another issue is the state's eviction moratorium, which expires at the end of the month. If it's not extended, Assemblyman David Chiu says the result could be catastrophic.

13: UCDVAX

Hospital systems in the Sacramento region are beginning to vaccinate some people over the age of 75 for COVID-19.

13: WOMENSHELTER

Single homeless women now have a low-barrier shelter for the night in Stockton...low-barrier meaning not having to pass a drug test or other obstacles to keep them from finding a bed. The 24-bed shelter also allows them to bring all their belongings with them.

14: 0114 PFCA 2-WAY

California Democratic Party Chairman Rusty Hicks claimed this week that the growing effort to recall Governor Gavin Newsom should be called "the California coup."

14: BOARDSFORCHANGE

If you've seen the plywood boards that started appearing on storefronts during the racial justice uprising last summer... Then you've probably also seen the artwork painted on them. That intersection of art and social justice was the brainchild of TV sports anchor Lina Washington. In creating her organization Boards for Change, she said she wanted the art to support the progress protesters were fighting for.

15: NATIONALGUARD

Newsom says after the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol last week, his state will be well prepared for any protests. NEWSOM-1: “We’re treating this very seriously and deploying significant resources to protect public safety, critical infrastructure and First Amendment rights. But let me be clear: There will be no tolerance for violence.” Sacramento has seen violent clashes on a weekly basis since election day.

15: NEWSOMGUARD TWO-WAY

Governor Gavin Newsom is deploying one-thousand members of the California National Guard to protect critical infrastructure around the state ... including the State Capitol building. This, in the wake of the January 6th attack on the U-S Capitol and a warning from the F-B-I this week that armed protests are planned at state Capitol buildings around the country.

18: MLKDAYPREVIEW

The Sacramento NAACP and Black Lives Matter Sacramento will hold a car caravan in celebration of this year’s Martin Luther King Day.

18: BIZJOURNAL

Construction of a new 14-story hotel at Ninth and L streets in Downtown Sacramento is likely get underway by midyear, according to the developer.

19: DRYWIND

Windy weather conditions are expected over the next couple days in Northern California. Cap Radio’s Ezra David Romero reports on what warm and breezy conditions mean for the Sacramento region.

19: MODLOT

California health officials are asking health care providers to suspend use of one corona virus vaccine batch because of a possible allergic reaction.

20: BECERRAVTRUMP

On President Donald Trump’s final day in the White House yesterday, California’s Attorney General filed 9 lawsuits challenging Trump’s environmental policies.

20: COVIDAUDIT

California is shortchanging small California counties when it comes to federal Covid-19 relief funds. That’s the conclusion of the state auditor.

21: SLEEPTRAIN

COVID-19 patients are currently being treated inside the former Sacramento Kings arena.

21: DAVISRECALL

Opponents of Democratic Governor Gavin Newsom are trying to gather enough petition signatures to trigger a special recall election in California. The effort is reminiscent of 2003 when Democratic Governor Gray Davis was recalled in favor of Republican Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Kim Nalder is a political science professor at Sacramento State. She’s also executive director of the Project for an Informed Electorate at Sac State’s Institute for Social Research.

22: WATERDEBT

Californians have accumulated as much as one-BILLION-dollars in unpaid water bills since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

22: BIDENCA

President Joe Biden signed a flurry of executive orders to help curb climate change ... including rejoining the Paris Climate Agreement and asking his government to start work immediately on confronting the crisis.

25: GENOMICSEQUENCING

Researchers in California are using a technique called genomic sequencing to better understand corona virus variants and outbreaks.

25: VAXNOTIFY

California is piloting a much-anticipated system where people can sign up for COVID-19 vaccine information.

26: CAPACITYSHIFT

After seven weeks of tight restrictions, California counties are allowed to return to the color-coded tier system, which allows them to slowly reopen their economies if they keep their case rates down. The change also lets people get together again — as long as it's outside, and no more than three households and 15 people.

26: JAILVOTE

The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors is set to decide on a controversial multi-million-dollar plan to expand Sacramento's downtown jail.

27: NEWSOMHOUSE

Governor Gavin Newsom has made bold promises to solve homelessness, and thousands of people have been sheltered under his watch.

27: SUNDANCE

Sundance has 71 feature films this year... One of them is called "First Date," about a shy teen who buys a 1965 Chrysler, which sets off a string of events that ruins a romantic evening with the girl next door. The film is made by Calaveras County filmmakers Manuel Crosby and Darren Knapp who were determined to make smart use of their native Calaveras County.

28: EDDAUDIT

A newly released report from the California State Auditor says the EDD is to blame for a huge backlog of unemployment claims.

28: NEWSOM

California Governor Gavin Newsom has spent much of his political career advocating for tech-innovation in government. But Newsom has had mixed success modernizing state bureaucracy in the last two years.

29: DISABILITYVAX

Californians with disabilities are worried they'll be overlooked in the state's COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan. That follows an announcement from health officials that priority will now be determined primarily by age group.

29: CDCSCHOOLS

Most of California's public-school students have been in distance-learning for nearly a full year, and there are still no concrete plans to reopen schools.

February

01: COVID-19VACCINE

Sacramento County is starting to roll COVID-19 vaccines out to seniors. But some community groups are worried marginalized people are being left out of the equation.

01: CHICOSTATEPROBE

More details are emerging about a financial misconduct investigation at California State University Chico. Andre Byik [Bye-ick] with our sister station NSPR in Chico has been reporting on the probe and brings us up to date on the latest.

02: RAPEKITTRACK

California lawmakers are proposing to create an online portal where sexual assault survivors can track the status of evidence related to their case.

02: PANDEMICPRISON

The state watchdog says California prison officials caused a “public health disaster” by transferring inmates from a facility already experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak to other prisons.

03: NEWSOMTROUBLES

As Governor Gavin Newsom faces the growing threat of a recall, potential opponents are starting to line up against him.

03: WATERYEAR

Over the past week Northern California was walloped by winter’s first big storm. But was there enough rain and snow to avoid drought this year?

04: GROUNDWATER

Last week’s atmospheric river that poured heavy rain across Northern California was a long-awaited opportunity for the people trying to manage the state’s water supply.

04: FOODELIVCAP

The Modesto City Council has enacted a measure that imposes a 15 percent cap on the amount food delivery services can charge customers and or restaurants during the pandemic. Because it's an urgency ordinance the cap goes into effect immediately.

05: MCCLATCHYBLM

The 17-foot long wooden sign simply reads: Black Lives Matter. Sacramento resident Zachary Trowbridge created the semi-permanent installation, which was often present at Cesar Chavez Plaza during last summer’s racial justice protests. Trowbridge says he hopes the sign will serve as a monument for those whose names are painted in white letters: ... 347 unarmed Black people who were killed by police.

05: EVTESLA

Even though California is among the most progressive states for electric vehicle adoption, a new report suggests there’s a major reason why drivers aren’t buying them.

08: STORMVIGIL

A candlelight vigil and march was held Friday to remember the unhoused Sacramentans who died in last month’s powerful rain storm.

08: FARMVAX

California seniors, teachers, first responders and farmworkers are all eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine right now. But with a limited supply of doses, counties have to choose who to prioritize.

09: VARIANT

A U-C Davis affiliated lab says a new, more contagious form of the corona virus has been detected in the Sacramento region.

09: CHURCHES

California issued new rules for religious gatherings over the weekend following a Supreme Court ruling that struck down a ban on indoor worship services.

10: YOUTHSPORTS

A growing number of California parents and lawmakers are calling for youth sports to start back up, citing physical and mental health concerns.

10: BUTTETESTING

Butte County Public Health Officials say testing too few residents could prevent the state from loosening the county's COVID-19 restrictions.

11: COVIDDATING

COVID-19 has completely transformed the way people date. With Valentine's Day approaching, Cap Radio's Sammy Caiola talked to Sacramentans about looking for love during the pandemic.

11: PORCHPIRATEFELONY

Porch pirates could face a felony charge in California under a law introduced in the state Senate.

12: COVIDSPORTS

High school sports in San Joaquin and Sacramento Counties started back up again this week but with many changes due to the pandemic.

12: LITTLESAGON

Tomorrow [Friday] is the Vietnamese New Year, also known as Tet, a holiday celebrated in South Sacramento's Little Saigon district. The strip of Stockton Boulevard has been a hub for the Vietnamese community for decades. But as CapRadio's Sarah Mizes-Tan tells us, an aging population and economic hard times raise questions about the future of the neighborhood.

16: DISENGAGED

The Sacramento City Unified School District says almost 1000 of its students are connecting with school just two days a week or less.

16: APITHATECRIMES

Lawmakers are calling for an end to the recent rise in hate crimes against Asian Americans elders, following a spate of violence in the Bay Area.

17: ETHNICSTUDIES

California educators are in the process of finalizing a new Ethnic Studies Curriculum for K through 12 public schools.

17: PFSIGNATURECLAIM

A Hollywood actor made a false claim this week about California's rules for verifying mail-in ballots.

18: YOSEMITEVISITS

In 2019, Yosemite hosted 4 and a half million campers, tourists, and day visitors. Last year, only 2.3 million visitors roamed Yosemite's valley floor, climbed its 750 hiking trails, and stood beneath the park's towering waterfalls...the lowest attendance in 35 years. What turned the flow of visitors to a trickle included smoke from wildfires, and the pandemic which closed the park from March to June.

18: BURNOUT

Burnout is growing among health care workers. That's the headline from a new survey looking at how California health providers are coping as the pandemic enters year two.

19: WARMING

The city of Sacramento announced last night that it would temporarily shut down its warming centers for homeless residents after a worker tested positive for COVID-19.

19: REOPENSCHOOLS

California lawmakers released a plan yesterday that would allow some schools to resume in-person learning and give teachers higher vaccine priority.

22: SACPRAISE

One of California's leading voices on housing policy has praised the city of Sacramento for its plans to create so-called "missing middle" housing options.

22: NV VAX

According to the new data, Latinos made up less than 12 percent of those who've been vaccinated, even though they're about a third of the state's population. Black Nevadans were underrepresented, too. Candice McDaniel is with the state Division of Public and Behavioral Health. She says those metrics can help ensure vaccines get distributed more fairly moving forward.

23: CARMENCEMENT

Sacramento State says it won't be able to have a traditional commencement ceremony this year because of the pandemic. This will be the second year in a row.

23: SCHOOLS-1-WRAP

Educators, state lawmakers and Governor Gavin Newsom are at a standstill over a plan to reopen California's public schools for in-person learning.

24: SACWINDSTORM

Sacramento officials are urging unhoused people needing shelter to take advantage of the city parking garage at 10th and I streets. While the garage doesn't offer walls; it does provide ventilation and some reprieve from the gusts. Leaders are turning to the open-air parking structures after a few volunteers at the city's downtown warming center tested positive for Covid-19. The exposure forced the city to close the facility last week.

24: CARBAUDIT

The California State Auditor says the state is in danger of not meeting its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent from 1990 levels.

25: PGEEEXCSUIT

A trust representing more than 80-thousand victims of deadly wildfires ignited by PGE's equipment is suing nearly two dozen of the company's former executives and board members.

25: SACRENTALASSIST

The city and county of Sacramento are making available 96-million dollars to help low-income residents financially impacted by COVID-19 pay past-due rent and utility bills.

26: STOPAAPIHATEFUNDING

California state lawmakers have approved one-point-four million dollars to help fund a nationwide effort to track Asian and Pacific Islander-related hate crimes.

26: HORSEBETTING

Betting windows at California horse tracks remained closed for much of last year. But people are still betting on races. Fans wagered 2-point-9 billion dollars in the 2018-2019 season...and 2-point-8 billion last season.

March

01: WARMNINGTRANSFER

Advocates for Sacramento's homeless community, and some city leaders, are speaking out against a plan to take money away from the city's emergency warming centers.

01: AGBURN

The California Air Resources Board has taken action to phase-down agricultural burning by the year 2025 in the San Joaquin Valley.

02: REPUBLICPREZ

Just days after a billionaire investor pulled out of the deal to bring a Major League Soccer team to Sacramento, the Republic F-C is losing one of its top executives.

02: EDDFRAUDTAX

Thousands of Californians are getting a nasty surprise as they prepare to file their income tax returns this year.

03: APIHATERESOLUTION

The resolution comes after a man left the mangled body of a cat outside of a Chinese-owned butcher shop in South Sacramento. It would condemn racism and intolerance against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and it promises that City Council will work with the community to better track these sorts of crimes in the future.

03: REDTIERCOUNTIES

Seven California counties will slide into the state's red tier and reopen in-door dining, movie theaters and gyms at reduced capacity as COVID-19 cases continue to decline.

04: TRANSFERUPDATE

The Sacramento City Council has approved a plan to spend 300-thousand dollars on temporary motel stays for homeless people.

04: UBISTUDY

Stockton's controversial guaranteed basic income pilot program is the subject of a 25-page study that shows it to be a success.

05: SCHOOLSPLANREAX

When California officials yesterday [Thursday] announced reopening requirements would soon loosen, it was greeted with praise from many.

05: OUTDOORSTUFF

California will begin allowing attendance at outdoor sporting events, concerts and amusement parks starting April 1st.

08: EVICTRECORDS

The economic crisis triggered by COVID-19 has made it hard for many Nevadans to make rent. A new bill seeks to help those who've been evicted as a result.

08: SACVAXCLINICS

At least two new COVID-19 vaccination clinics will open this week in Sacramento, targeting some of the city's hardest hit communities.

09: MEADOWVIEWVAX

A new pop up vaccination site will be coming to South Sacramento later this week.

09: SOTSPREV

California Governor Gavin Newsom will give his annual State of the State address tomorrow night.

10: UNHOUSEDHOMELESS

Sacramento city leaders are working on plans to safely relocate 300 people camping under elevated portions of Highway 50. They're being moved in advance of a Caltrans road widening project set to begin at the end of the month.

10: WARMINGCENTERS

The Sacramento City Council has approved a resolution to designate permanent shelters for the homeless, regardless of weather.

11: GROCSHOT

The California grocery store industry says workers are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine in all counties.

11: DELPASOCLINIC

While state and county officials say they want to speed up the vaccination of underserved communities, one north Sacramento clinic - largely serving people of color - can't get enough doses.

12: VAXCONDITIONS

Starting Monday, Californians under age 64 - with certain health conditions like cancer and obesity — will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccines.

12: SJICU

For the first time in months, San Joaquin County hospitals have seen a significant drop in hospitalization for COVID patients and intensive care.

15: COVIDOBESITY

California is now using severe obesity as a way to determine who can get in line for the COVID-19 vaccine.

15: RECALLRESPONSE

Governor Gavin Newsom is launching a campaign to defend himself from a recall effort. It comes as opponents say they've collected more than enough signatures to force an election.

16: CITYFEES

Low income Sacramentans who can't pay certain fees may get relief soon. The city and county of Sacramento are looking to reverse certain fees for people living in underserved neighborhoods.

16: ASPARAGUSDAYS

Stockton's Asparagus Festival was canceled last year ... another victim of the pandemic.

17: POLICEREFORM

California state lawmakers are bringing back a proposal to strip the badges from police officers who commit crimes or misconduct.

17: PANPARK

State parks officials say they're pleased Californians are getting outdoors during the pandemic, but increased interest in trails, wildflowers and waterfalls doesn't mean additional park resources.

18: BONTAFORAG

A group of California's top Asian and Pacific Islander leaders yesterday urged Governor Gavin Newsom to appoint Assemblyman Rob Bonta as the state's new attorney general.

18: CARFREEZONES

As Sacramento's restaurants transition to indoor seating, some businesses in the city's midtown are not ready to give up the outdoor spaces that popped up during the pandemic.

19: STEPHONSHOUSE

Yesterday [Thursday], marked 3 years since Sacramento police shot and killed Stephon Clark, a 22-year-old Black man whose cell phone was allegedly mistaken for a gun. To mark the day, his family is holding a series of events called Stephon's Legacy Weekend.

19: SACCOUNTYCOVID

Sacramento County health officials say a 3rd mass vaccination site is coming-soon to the area.

22: AB110

Nevada's legislature is still closed to the general public over concerns about COVID-19. But those restrictions also blocked the state from tracking lobbying activity.

22: SACCOUNTYCOVID

Sacramento County health officials say a 3rd mass vaccination site is coming-soon to the area.

23: SICKLEAVE

Millions of California workers can now take more paid-sick-time for issues related to the pandemic, under a bill signed by Governor Gavin Newsom.

23: BUTTEYUBASUPES

The boards of supervisors in Butte and Yuba counties today [Tuesday] will consider opposing a state plan that some say will limit local control over needle ex-change programs.

24: COUNTYEQUITYVAX-1-VOICER

In Sacramento County, over 500 thousand doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered. But nearly 60 percent of those have gone to white residents, despite this demographic accounting for less than half of the county's population.

24: AW_CAPRADIO

The California Department of Public Health has announced the latest list of counties eligible to further loosen restrictions on businesses.

25: BONTAAG

Governor Gavin Newsom named his pick to be California's next Attorney General: East Bay Assemblyman Rob Bonta.

25: PFCA2WAY

Some popular Facebook posts are blaming President Joe Biden for the nation's spike in gas prices.

26: AAPIHATEFORUM

Sacramento government and law enforcement leaders were in the hot seat last night [Thursday] during a virtual forum to address the rise in Anti-Asian hate crimes.

26: AGGIESQUARECBA

U-C Davis's controversial Aggie Square development in Oak Park is one step closer to breaking ground after officials yesterday [THURSDAY] unveiled a set of agreements for development to go forward.

29: PRABILL

A bill making its way through the Nevada legislature would raise financial penalties for government agencies that block access to public records.

29: LASSENVACCINE

California is expanding COVID vaccine eligibility to anyone 16 years and older starting April 15th. But some smaller counties in the state are ahead of schedule — opening appointments up now to any adult who lives there.

30: BONTAAPIHATE

Bay Area Assemblymember Rob Bonta last week was named California's new Attorney General. As Cap Radio's Sarah Mizes-Tan reports, many people in the Asian American and Pacific Islander community see Bonta as a bridge to law enforcement.

30: OAKPARKGROCERY

After a year of searching, a vacant supermarket building near Sacramento's Oak Park neighborhood may soon be getting a new tenant.

31: STKNCOPS

Two Stockton Police officers were fired today [Thursday] and three others disciplined following an investigation into the beating of a 17-year-old driver.

31: BOSMENTALHEALTH

Sacramento County supervisors continue to discuss developing an alternative to 911 for mental health emergencies.

**For FCC purposes (47 CFR 73.1207(b)), Houston Public Media/KUHF-FM has granted consent to all NPR Member and other stations authorized to broadcast NPR programming to rebroadcast their signal/broadcast audio stream for this funeral and related coverage. If you rebroadcast the KUHF-FM broadcast audio stream for this coverage, a copy of this consent should be retained in your station's FCC public files, so that it is available in the event the FCC requests it.

CLOCK:

There will be no specified clock for this coverage and we do not know when this coverage will end, though HPM is tentatively planning for about 2 hours. As an option, if the service lasts more than two hours, Houston Public Media will offer cutaway language at 1:59:58 PM ET/12:59:58 CT. The cue will be "You are listening to coverage of the George Floyd Funeral, live from Houston Texas." This will be followed by a 2 second pause in commentary, then there will be a reestablish at the top of the hour. This will then be repeated at the top of each hour for as long as the service continues.

OPTIONAL: ALTERNATE SUBSCRIPTION:

For stations that wish to do so, it is also possible to subscribe to the Houston Public Media/KUHF-FM program via ContentDepot, here: <https://contentdepot.prss.org/portal/media/programs/6158286>

BROADCAST PROTOCOLS:

Colleagues, please have your local host regularly identify this coverage on the air as programming from Houston Public Media/KUHF-FM in Houston, TX.

As this program is originating from a non-NPR source, NPR messaging about this programming will be limited.

Be advised that this coverage is local and may include local warnings, alerts and corresponding tones. Please be mindful of possible issues that may arise from rebroadcasting another station's programming.

As always during live coverage, we recommend that stations have a board op present to engineer. We do not recommend automating this coverage.

DIGITAL COVERAGE:

VIDEO:

NPR is also offering a live video stream of the funeral for George Floyd in the form of an embed for your website. This is a separate stream and not a part of Houston Public Media's coverage. Please see this link for more details: https://www.nprstations.org/programinfo/feature_series/17_embeds.cfm

CONTACT:

Questions? Contact ProgramServices@npr.org.

Or call 800-329-5380 during the hours of 9:00 am - 6:00pm, Monday through Friday.

MessageID (17698698)