



MADERA COUNTY PUBLIC INFORMATION TEAM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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TITLE: Madera County Approved to Accelerate into Later Stage 2

Madera County has obtained approval from the state to move more quickly through Stage 2 on the roadmap to re-opening. This is often called Stage 2.5. The county submitted documentation to the state on Tuesday, May 19th confirming the county's ability to meet the readiness criteria set by the Governor and it was approved by the state this morning.

Additional businesses now allowed to open with safety precautions include retail, dine-in restaurants, office-based businesses, outdoor museums and gallery spaces, childcare, and swap meets. The changes are effective as of May 20, 2020 for all businesses with the exception of the swap meet which may re-open as of May 31, 2020. The timeline for schools re-opening is not yet determined and some businesses may choose to open at a slower pace.

"Madera County is prepared to move forward. Through the efforts of Madera County residents and staff in the Emergency Operations Center we have been able to slow the spread of COVID-19. As more businesses open up it is imperative that community members continue to practice social distancing and hygiene behaviors, and wear masks when they go out," stated Simon Paul, Public Health Officer.

The Governor's Roadmap Stage 2 does not include entertainment such as movie theaters, bars, and nightclubs; personal services such as gyms, hair, and nail salons; large venues such as convention or sports arenas; and other locations such as public pools, and playgrounds. The state has not provided a timeline or variance process for moving beyond Stage 2.

For more information on COVID-19 visit www.maderacounty.com/covid19 or call 311.

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