



News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (2/19/21)

As the Number of Coronavirus Cases Decline, California Can Begin Reopening

[AP News reported Wednesday](#) that California is beginning to ease restrictions on businesses now that the state has emerged from the deadliest surge of the COVID-19 pandemic and seeing rapid declines in positivity rates and hospitalizations.

Governor Newsom was quoted, “the good news: parts of the state are already beginning to open back up,” and he expects to reopen more counties next week.

Governor Newsom spoke at the mass vaccination site in Los Angeles that opened Tuesday in partnership with FEMA. There is similar site that opened in Oakland and both locations are estimated to distribute 6,000 doses a day. They both intend to vaccinate people in underserved communities that have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

According to AP News, positivity rates have dropped to about 3.5% of people and Newsom said that rate has dropped swiftly in recent weeks. However, vaccination doses are still at a shortage, but the state expects to receive 1.28 million doses next week and 1.31 million doses the following week.

Recently, mass vaccinations sites such as the site at Dodger Stadium and at the Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco were closed temporarily due to not having enough doses. Newsom explained that the new mass vaccination sites were opened in partnership with the federal government, so they will not be drawing from the same supply.

Watch: Governor Newsom on Coronavirus Vaccines, Youth Sports Guidance

The Governor announced a few updates on Friday, February 19, 2021 regarding coronavirus vaccines and guidance on youth sports. Beginning March 1st, the state will require consistent prioritization for vaccines across California. The state will also allocate 10% of first doses to education workers, approximately 75k doses per week.

Additionally, the Governor announced that [the California Department of Public Health will issue guidance today](#) that permits competition for outdoor youth sports. This update will only be permitted as long as case rates remain below 14/100,000. As of now, 19 counties across the state have a case rate of 14 or lower per 100,000.

To watch the full press conference, [please click here](#).

The updated guidance for youth and recreational sports may be found [here](#).

California to Receive Biggest Boost of Vaccine Supply from the Federal Government Yet

The White House announced on Tuesday, February 16th, that there will be a 23% increase in the nation's allocations of vaccine doses, bringing the total number of doses to around 13.5 million per week.

Sacramento Bee reported that California will receive about 23% more first doses next week than this week, according to allocation updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Tuesday. The state is expecting to receive around 383,000 first doses of Pfizer vaccines which is an increase from the 141,000 doses received this week. Additionally, the state will receive Moderna doses at about 380,000 per week.

[The California department of Public Health's vaccine tracker](#) reported on Tuesday that providers have administered around 6.27 million of the 8.25 million doses distributed to hospital systems and health offices. This is an increase of 751,352 since last Friday, February 12th. However, California still ranks 33rd of the 50 states and Washington, D.C. on distribution thus far. This statistic is consistent with late last week.

The state has also made their \$15 million contract with Blue Shield, a third party administrator, available as of Monday. Further details of the contract can be viewed [here](#).

California Has Now Reported the Most COVID-19 Deaths in the Nation

[According to ABC News](#), California has surpassed New York for the highest number of COVID-19 deaths in the country. As of February 12th, [John Hopkins University reported](#) 46,022 Californians to have died of coronavirus. New York, the epicenter of the pandemic last spring, reported 45,453 per John Hopkins University's records.

California's death rate also highlights another troubling statistic as Latino Americans represent 46.3% of COVID-19 deaths although only making up 38.9% of the state's population, [according to state figures](#). Latino Americans are often on the front lines as essential workers and have thus made up around 55% of California's positive cases.

The U.S. DHS Trains California Fire Services on Situational Awareness Application

[According to Newswise](#), California firefighters from some of the most impacted areas by wildland fires are undergoing training on a new mobile application to harness wildfire situational awareness data. The United States Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate conducted a virtual training on its Team Awareness Kit (TAK). The kit provides features such as video sharing, location tracking of fire equipment, fire perimeters from aircraft, and fire model forecasts.

Newsire describes TAK as a geospatial mapping and common operating picture program developed for the military special operations community. The civilian version is available on the Google Play Store and is easily adapted to the wildland fire service. It was used to share live tracking information from the Fire Integrated Real-Time Intelligence System (FIRIS) program on the Blue Ridge and Silverado Fires in California in 2020. TAK helped the local communities contain the fire threat and manage evacuations using real-time perimeters and fire forecasts delivered from FIRIS.

The DHS Science and Technology Directorate collaborated with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), FIRIS, Intterra, and the WIFIRE Lab at University of California-San Diego to provide this training to 20 firefighters from Southern California wildfire response communities including Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Bernardino counties, in addition to other support agencies.

The training was done in conjunction with FIRIS and the City of Corona Fire Department. The session also leveraged national interagency wildfire efforts, including a nationwide TAK server hosted by the United States Forest Service and the Colorado Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting, the same TAK server that supported the 2020 fires in Colorado and California.

The partnership began with the DHS Science and Technology Directorate's publication, ["Wildland Urban Interface Fire Operational Requirements and Capability Analysis: Report of Findings."](#)

NIST to Hold a Presentation on Their Findings from Investigation of the Camp Fire

[According to Action News Now](#), The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) deployed a team of investigators from their Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) group to conduct an initial investigation of the Camp Fire. This team embarked on a multi-year study of the Camp Fire that occurred in Paradise, including the reconstruction of the fire progression timeline, as well as aspects of the evacuation, emergency notification and fire suppression/structure protection. They invite the public to join their virtual presentation of their findings on Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 10 a.m. (PST). This presentation can be accessed online, [here](#).

Trauma-Informed Fire Education and Journaling Workshop

[According to Action News Now](#), Paradise Recreation and Park District (PRPD) and the Butte County Fire Safe Council are presenting an interactive workshop on Trauma-Informed Fire Education and Journaling. This event will take place on March 23-25, 2021 and registration is located on [PRPD's](#) and [Butte County Fire Safe Council's](#) Facebook pages. The workshop will integrate trauma-informed perspectives into field and nature journaling practices that will be used to build awareness and understanding of fire on the landscape.

Combatting Terrorism Center at West Point: Al-Qa`ida's Soon-To-Be Third Emir? A Profile of Saif al-`Adl

Following the confirmed deaths of Hamza bin Ladin and Abu Muhammad al-Masri, as well as the reported demise of al-Qa`ida's second emir, Ayman al-Zawahiri, the next in line to inherit the leadership is likely Egyptian, [Saif al-`Adl](#). Saif lives in Iran and is supposedly restricted from leaving the country. There is little known about his current movements or activities, but Saif's revered status within the movement, as well as his deep experience as a military, intelligence, and security leader and terrorist planner, make him a potentially dangerous emir.

The following profile, from West Point's Combatting Terrorism Center, will detail an attempt to trace his most likely path and will cast a new light on the origins of al-Qa`ida and its possible future emir. To view the full profile, [please click here](#).

Combatting Terrorism Center at West Point: The Evolution of the Boogaloo Movement

[The Boogaloo Movement](#) emerged online in late 2019, manifested offline in 2020, and has rapidly evolved into a significant domestic violent extremist threat. It has also proven to be deeply challenging for online monitoring and evaluation due to its adaptive use of memes and coded language that blurs the lines between irony and incitement.

Offline, a disrupted violent plot in Nevada targeting a racial justice protest, acts of accelerationist-inspired violence in California, and attempts in Minnesota of material support to a foreign terrorist organization underscore the gravity of the diverse threat the Boogaloo movement poses, as well as the need to take it seriously. The Boogaloo movement has resonated within the United States' domestic extremist landscape through appeals to the nation's revolutionary origins; and an accelerationist faction within Boogaloo has sought to instigate decentralized insurrectionary violence. As a big-tent movement with the ability to quickly adapt its messaging, its existence, fractured or not, will likely linger in 2021 and beyond.

The following article will assess the history of how the Boogaloo movement came to its current state, detail the movement's embrace of insurrectionary violence offline, provide a brief projection of the movement, and propose responses to the threat. To view the full article, [please click here](#).

California DMV Contractor Hack May Have Exposed Driver Info

[Personal information for possibly millions of California drivers may have been accessible to hackers this month](#) after a company contracting with the California Department of Motor Vehicles suffered a security breach earlier this month. Law enforcement and the FBI are investigating a ransomware attack that targeted Automatic Funds Transfer Services, a Seattle company that handles billing and statement processing, and may have exposed DMV vehicle registration records that contain names, addresses, license plate numbers and vehicle identification numbers, officials said.

In general, a ransomware attack infects and locks down a computer or network and demands a payment in order for the system to work again. The breach could potentially affect all Californians who registered a vehicle within the last 20 months, with an estimated 38 million records compromised, DMV spokeswoman, Anita Gore, said. DMV systems have not been breached, the agency said. Officials did not specify how many people might be affected.

Funding Opportunities

Toxicology Driving Under the Influence/Driving Under the Influence of Drugs Laboratory

The purpose of the [Cannabis Tax Fund Grant Program, CTFGP](#), is to disperse grant funds from the Control, Regulate, and Tax Adult Use Marijuana Act (AUMA) to local governments and eligible nonprofits for the education, prevention, and enforcement of impaired driving laws pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code Section 34019.

In 2016, California voters passed Proposition 64, the AUMA mandating that the state set aside funding for the California Highway Patrol (CHP) with the intent of the CHP enhancing traffic safety by administering AUMA grant funds. These funds are intended to educate the public regarding the dangers of impaired driving, fund efforts to remove impaired drivers from the roadway, and advance research into impaired driving issues.

Toxicology Driving Under the Influence (DUI)/Driving Under the Influence of Drugs (DUID) laboratory grant funds shall be used by the grantee(s) to improve and advance the standardization of practices in toxicology laboratories supporting DUI of alcohol and other drugs, including cannabis and cannabis products. These projects should assist in the enforcement of laws of laws related to DUI/DUID, including cannabis and cannabis products.

Total estimated funding available is \$10 million and the deadline to apply is **February 23, 2021**.

To apply, please [click here](#). More information and funding notes can be found through the [CHP's website](#) as well.

Environmental Enhancement Fund

[The Environmental Enhancement Fund \(EEF\)](#) grant program is administered by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Office of Spill Prevention and Response. The purpose of this grant program is to award funding to nonprofit organizations, cities, counties, districts, state agencies, and departments; as well as to the extent permitted by federal law, to federal agencies to support environmental enhancement projects located within or immediately adjacent to waters of the state.

An enhancement project is a project that acquires habitat for preservation, or improves habitat quality and ecosystem function above baseline conditions, and that meets all of the following requirements:

- Is located within or immediately adjacent to waters of the state, as defined in California Government Code, Section 8670.3
- Has measurable outcomes within a predetermined timeframe
- Is designed to acquire, restore, or improve habitat or restore ecosystem function, or both, to benefit fish and wildlife

Projects benefiting specific focus areas will be given preference for a subset of available funds, however, all eligible agencies and projects are encouraged to apply. Focus areas include:

- Projects in Kern or Fresno counties
- Projects benefiting non-perennial waterways and associated habitats including desert washes and alluvial fans

Total estimated available funding totals to \$849,000. The application deadline is March 1, 2021, and the application can be [viewed here](#).

COVID-19 Health Equity Pilot Projects

[The CDC Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Grant](#) program is dispersing \$5 million with intent to advance the State's work to close racial, ethnic, and other disparities related to COVID-19 and associated chronic conditions. Community-Based Organizations will use the funding for pilot projects to reduce underlying inequities in the social determinants of health that have contributed to disproportionate harm from the COVID-19 pandemic among certain communities.

The California Department of Public Health OHE will be distributing \$5 million from the Centers for Disease and Control Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Grant to ~16-30 community-based organizations led by and serving communities facing inequities in COVID-19

impacts and infection. This will total to \$499 million. Once projects are completed, awardees will be sharing the best practices, outcomes, and impact of their pilot projects to their Local Health Jurisdictions and the CDPH, with the goal that successful pilot projects can be replicated to reduce the risks of COVID-19 impacts.

Eligible entities must be a CBO with their 501(c)(3) certification or can be fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) organization.

[Refer to the Request for Application \(RFA\) for complete details on application requirements.](#)

The deadline to apply is **March 2, 2021**.

GFO-20-205 – The Next EPIC Challenge: Reimagining Affordable Mixed-Use Development in a Carbon Constrained Future

[The purpose of this solicitation](#) is to fund a design-build competition that will challenge multi-disciplinary project teams to design and build a mixed-use development – using cutting-edge energy technologies, tools, and construction practices that are affordable, equitable, emissions-free and resilient to climate change impacts and extreme weather events.

Climate change and housing affordability are two of the most significant challenges facing the State of California. The deadly and disastrous fires of the past few years, as well as findings from California’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment, have highlighted the dire impacts expected from climate change on California if greenhouse gas emissions are not drastically reduced. To avoid the most severe impacts of Climate Change, California has set aggressive policy goals to decarbonize its energy by 2045.

Through its research and development investments, the CEC has supported the development of a number of promising technologies that can help support the feasibility of a zero-emission mixed-use development. Many of the technologies have benefits beyond their energy and emission savings that can help facilitate their market adoption. To address both greenhouse gas emissions and rising housing costs, technology and non-technology innovations across these sectors will need to come together into new models capable of disrupting the housing sector so that all Californians have access to safe, healthy, affordable, and desirable living environments.

This funding will be conducted as a two-phase design-build competition. The California Energy Commission (CEC) may consider adding a third-phase grand prize challenge that will be awarded to the best of the four Build Phase projects to scale their design across the state. There is up to \$12 million available for the Design Phase portion of this funding. There will be an added \$36 million in funding for the Build Phase of this competition contingent upon approval of the CEC’s 2021-2025 EPIC Investment Plan. This would total out to \$48 million planned for grants awarded.

The Concept Application of this funding is open to all public and private entities with the exception of local publicly owned electric utilities. The Design Phase of this funding is only open to Applicants who passed the screening criteria shown in Section IV.E from the Concept Application Phase. The Build Phase of this solicitation is only open to awarded Recipients of the Design Phase.

At least 25% of available Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) technology demonstration and deployment funding must be allocated to project sites located in, and benefiting,

disadvantaged communities; and an additional minimum 10% of funds must be allocated to projects sites located in and benefiting low-income communities. [For more guidelines regarding this grant, please see the CA Energy Commission's website.](#)

The deadline to apply for this funding is **March 26, 2021**. To view the application and/or apply, [please click here.](#)

Future Funding Opportunity: The 2021 Nonprofit Security Grant Program

Before the end of February 2021, The Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/ Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will release the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) Notice of Funding Opportunity. The NSGP provides funding support for security-related and physical security enhancements to nonprofit organizations. The NSGP promotes emergency preparedness coordination and collaboration activities between public and private community representatives as well as state, local, and tribal government agencies.