



**CITY OF SANTA CLARITA  
AGENDA REPORT**

CONSENT CALENDAR

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:

*Ken Stripling*

DATE: March 9, 2021

SUBJECT: STATE LEGISLATION: ASSEMBLY BILL 420

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

PRESENTER: Masis Hagobian

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RECOMMENDED ACTION

City Council adopt the City Council Legislative Committee recommendation to support Assembly Bill 420 (Quirk-Silva) and transmit position statements to Assembly Member Quirk-Silva, Santa Clarita's state legislative delegation, appropriate legislative committees, Governor Newsom, League of California Cities, and other stakeholder organizations.

BACKGROUND

Authored by Assembly Member Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-65-Fullerton), Assembly Bill 420 expresses the intent of the Legislature to have the Governor's office modify the tier schedule for the reopening of amusement parks to place all amusement parks in Tier 3 - Moderate, regardless of park size.

The reopening of non-essential businesses is prescribed through the "Blueprint for a Safer Economy" through a tier framework, which was developed and implemented by the Governor's office and the California Department of Public Health. The following is a breakdown of each tier:

- Tier 1 (Purple - Most Restrictive): The 7-day case rate is greater than 7 cases/100,000 population and the 7-day testing positivity rate is greater than 8 percent
- Tier 2 (Red): The 7-day case rate is 4-7 cases/100,000 population and the 7-day testing positivity rate is 5-8 percent
- Tier 3 (Orange): The 7-day case rate is 1-3.9 cases/100,000 population and the 7-day testing positivity rate is 2-4.9 percent
- Tier 4 (Yellow - Least Restrictive): The 7-day case rate is less than 1 case/100,000

population and the 7-day testing positivity rate is 2-4.9 percent

Currently, the state prohibits the operation of amusement parks, regardless of size, in Tiers 1 (Purple) and 2 (Red). As of February 23, 2021, Los Angeles County is in Tier 1 (Purple) with a 7-day case rate of 12.3 and a 7-day testing positivity rate of 4.8 percent.

The state permits amusement parks with overall capacity of fewer than 15,000 to operate at a 25 percent capacity in Tier 3 (Orange). Amusement parks with an overall capacity above 15,000 may not reopen until Tier 4 (Yellow). This legislation is intended to express the Legislature's intent to have the Governor's office modify the tier framework to allow all amusement parks to reopen, with limited capacity and modifications, in Tier 3 (Orange).

Many amusement parks in the state surpass an overall capacity of 15,000, including Six Flags Magic Mountain with an approximate capacity of 65,000, and Disneyland with an approximate capacity of 49,000.

However, contrary to the framework used in the current state guidelines, it is the larger amusement parks that have the greatest capacity and ability to implement and enforce mitigation measures to combat the spread of the virus and protect its staff and visitors. Mitigation measures, including a reduced capacity limit, required advance ticket reservations, mandatory mask wearing, temperature screening at entrances, and social distancing protocols, can all be applied to large amusement parks as a required modification to allow for operations to resume within the state.

The recommendation to support is consistent with the City of Santa Clarita 2021 Executive and Legislative Platform. Specifically, Component 12 under the "State" section advises that the City Council, "Support legislation, regulatory proposals, administrative actions, or public health orders to allow and support businesses that have been forced to limit or close their operations, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, to responsibly reopen and operate to the capacity that will safely initiate the economic recovery process."

Assembly Bill 420 may be heard in a policy committee beginning March 7, 2021.

The City Council Legislative Committee met on February 26, 2021, and recommends that the City Council adopt a "support" position on Assembly Bill 420.

#### ALTERNATIVE ACTION

1. Adopt an "oppose" position on Assembly Bill 420
2. Adopt a "neutral" position on Assembly Bill 420
3. Take no action on Assembly Bill 420
4. Refer Assembly Bill 420 back to the Legislative Committee
5. Other action, as determined by the City Council

## FISCAL IMPACT

The resources required to implement the recommended action are contained within the City of Santa Clarita's adopted FY 2020-21 budget.

## ATTACHMENTS

Assembly Bill 420 - Bill Text