

MOTION


The City and the State are looking toward the most effective ways to reopen and still keep people safe from the now-omnipresent danger of exposure to COVID-19. Despite recent optimism, experts say the true number of infected people is still unknown and likely considerably higher than the official count.

Rapid-results testing has shown to be effective in identifying people who are infected with the virus and ensuring they are quarantined and receive treatment if necessary. While rapid-results tests can reportedly lead to some false-negative results, correct and consistent use can help mitigate the spread of the virus, particularly in areas that are either current hotspots, or would otherwise be difficult to reopen.

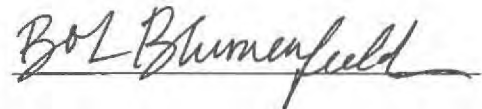
For instance, workers at skilled nursing facilities, a significant hotspot for COVID-19 mortality, could be tested upon reporting to work. For other instances, as the entertainment industry and professional sports look to resume, workers and talent could be tested daily before shoots and before games. Also, LAPD Chief Moore has requested the ability to rapid test suspects upon arrest to avoid spread among inmates.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, to report back on ways to implement more robust widespread "rapid-results" testing protocols for COVID-19 to further reduce the spread among staff and essential workers at hotspots such as hospitals, jails, nursing homes, grocery stores, mass transit, and other locations that are susceptible to outbreaks.

PRESENTED BY:

  
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