



MEDIA STATEMENT

City of Compton Issues Statement in Response to Report on Councilmember Isaac Galvan Testing Positive for COVID-19

Compton, Calif. – July 24, 2020 – Today, it was reported that Compton Councilmember Isaac Galvan has tested positive for COVID-19. Since the onset of the pandemic in March, the City of Compton has taken aggressive measures to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. The City has held several testing events in partnership with Trap Heals and Originals Nation, Assemblymember Mike Gipson and St. John’s Wellness Clinic.

The City has also consistently briefed residents on the status of testing resources and current health recommendations issued by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Los Angeles County Health Department guidelines. On March 18, 2020, Mayor Aja Brown and the City Council declared a Local Emergency, approving a resolution supporting the implementation of Governor Gavin Newsom’s executive orders and the County of Los Angeles’ health order on COVID-19.

“Compton City management has been in constant communication with Los Angeles County public health officials in order to stay ahead of and implement the latest protective mandates and protocols, expeditiously, and we have taken actions to keep the City’s staff and residents safe, including the immediate commercial sanitation of reported municipal facilities,” said Craig Cornwell, Compton City Manager. “Our municipal facilities follow workplace safety precautions with strict protocols of social distancing, as well as advance protocols that include temperature testing every individual entering the facility and surveying their current wellbeing and the wellbeing of people they have come in contact with.”

In an effort to preserve the health and safety of the community and taking direction of Los Angeles County and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), all City facilities closed to the public on March 16, 2020, including City Hall, the Dollarhide Community Center, all City parks, and Compton’s CareerLink. Complying with the LA County Safer at Home orders to stop gatherings in the City and following CDC recommendation of no more than 10 people, Compton holds all City Council meetings remotely – making them available to residents on local Channel 36 and on ComptonCity.org, where they can participate via phone calls and email.

The City has partnered with community health organizations to bring COVID-19 testing sites to residents: Assemblymember Mike Gipson and St. John’s Well Child and Family Center held two testing dates at Burrell-MacDonald Park on July 9th and Wilson Park on July 13th, and testing also became available for homeless individuals in partnership with Homeless Outreach Program Integrated Care System (HOPICS), LA County Public Health and The Pentecostals of Compton. Originals Nation and Trap Heals held **ByeCOVID: A Cultural Event Response** at Compton College to distribute free tests for residents. In addition to testing, Compton also partnered with Pull Up Neighbor on May 2nd to distribute 5,000 free face masks to residents and will be holding another distribution on August 8th. The city also purchased thousands of face masks and other PPE for city employees and have distributed accordingly.

On Wednesday July 22nd, Mayor Aja Brown announced an exclusive testing event is underway exclusively for employees during the weekly Compton Covid-19 briefing, which is made available broadly on the city’s public access channel and via all social media channels. “The safety and wellbeing of our City leaders, staff and residents continues to be our primary priority. After working closely with Los Angeles County health officials to bring an exclusive testing site to Compton, we are pleased that thousands of Compton residents will have dedicated access to screening. The site has recently been approved and will be opening in two weeks,” said Mayor Aja Brown. “We

have been closely monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic as it unfolds in Compton, and are also currently in the works of coordinating a test date for all employees and teachers that have requested one.”

In addition to supporting these recommendations at the local level, the City’s Local Emergency resolution created new City policies to limit the spread of COVID-19, including:

- Limiting Dial-A-Ride to a maximum of three people for essential services.
- Supporting small businesses by encouraging commercial landlords provide a payment plan for delinquent rents where appropriate.
- Directing the City Manager to develop a food bank program for Compton residents and provide other emergency supplies to Compton seniors and the disabled community.
- Directing the City Manager to establish an electronic public participation program for public meetings.
- Closing all parks and the Compton Par 3 Golf Course.

Compton will continue to keep residents up-to-date on resources and changes from Los Angeles County and the CDC on Channel 36, social media platforms, and on ComptonCity.org/COVID19.

Media Contact: Alma Maldonado, 323.804.2561

###