

South Valley Farmers Market set to open May 7

Starting Thursday, May 7, the South Valley Farmers Market will open its seasonal farmers market to the public, at Seventh and Main streets.

This is not a 'business as usual' Thursday market, as the nonprofit aims

to play a role in flattening the curve in its safety outline for the market's spring and summer operations.

Vendors and staff are re-designing the market to make the shopping space as safe as possible

for everyone.

Pre-ordering opportunities are in the works, along with no-touch shopping, wash stations, good communication between staff and customers and spaced out booths.

When customers shop, they can help by wearing a mask, coming solo if possible and always practicing six feet of social distancing while at market.

While the market will look and feel quite dif-

ferent, it will still be offering essential programs such as Double up Food Bucks/SNAP match program.

Several of the vendors are enrolled in the Farm Direct Nutrition Program for WIC (Women,

Infants and Children) families and seniors.

These are essential services to the community and people need accessible fresh food now more than ever.

The farmers market runs from 4 to 7 p.m.

Opening from A9

"Coos, Curry, Jackson, and Josephine Counties each still have very few cases and capacity to test anyone with symptoms in the foreseeable future."

The letter goes on to state that "all five counties currently have healthcare capacity to manage the case load and beyond," but warns that hospitals may have

limited ability to bear their own financial burden.

Meanwhile, Lane County's Senior Public Health Advisor Dr. Patrick Luedtke outlined his own seven criteria in consideration for re-opening in a press conference on April 13, several of which echoed the state's guidelines.

Those criteria included:

- A decrease of infections or deaths over two

of the coronavirus's incubation periods, which would be 28 days.

As Lane County cases have plateaued to a case or two per day, Luedtke stated on April 28 that the county was on its way to meeting this standard.

- Local testing capacity which is able to scale back up for a second wave. The county is currently equipped to con-

duct about 500 tests per day, with a goal of reaching around 1,000.

- Adequate contact tracing resources, which Luedtke characterized as "doing well."

- Plans for the health-care community to scale back up in case of a second wave.

- Sufficient supply of PPE to hospitals, which officials have identified as less of a concern of

late.

- A blueprint for easing restrictions on public life and business.

- A statewide view which aligns Lane with other counties' ability to deal with the virus.

"For me, those are the seven main criteria that I would like to see visioned and assessed appropriately before we consider relaxing these restrictions," said Luedt-

ke. "I suspect that there are a few other criteria or nuances of these criteria from others in the public health space."

The county has stated that an online resource which tracks the progress of these criteria in real-time will shortly be available to the public.

As of press time, no date has been set for the release of the county's online resource.



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The LCC board invites you to attend an upcoming online town hall meeting to learn more about Measure 20-306, which will be on the May 19th ballot.

Thursday
April 30th
6:00 pm

Saturday
May 9th
10:00 am

Saturday
May 9th
or 2:00 pm

Visit lanecc.edu/bond for information about participating.

Submit questions at bond@lanecc.edu

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