



City of Milpitas

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City of Milpitas Launches Mobile Testing for COVID-19

Milpitas, CA – May 26, 2020 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The City of Milpitas is partnering with Milpitas company IGeneX to offer mobile COVID-19 testing to residents and employees at essential businesses.

The mobile diagnostic testing program, based out of a Milpitas Fire Department ambulance, will initially focus on testing vulnerable populations at locations such as elderly care facilities, senior mobile home parks, and city facilities during its two-week pilot program, starting May 27, 2020. After the pilot period, the unhoused population and employees of essential businesses such as grocery stores who have frequent contact with the public will also have the opportunity to be tested.

“Increasing testing is important to a higher level of community safety, lower spread of COVID-19, and a faster economic recovery. We are very glad to have IGeneX join us in a public-private partnership to provide the testing our community needs during this pandemic,” says Councilmember Anthony Phan.

The City will schedule appointments with potential testing sites and administer the tests with Fire Department paramedics. IGeneX will provide the needed testing materials and process the test results, and will directly bill Medicare or eligible insurance carriers (Medicare, Aetna, Blue Cross, Blue Shield, Cigna, Humana, and United Healthcare). For patients who do not have health insurance but have a valid Social Security Number, Permanent Resident Number, or State driver’s license, IGeneX will seek federal reimbursement under the Health Resources Services Administration COVID-19 Uninsured Persons Program. Individuals with insurance carriers not listed above may also be covered. However, individuals who have insurance coverage with Staff Model HMOs, such as Kaiser Permanente, will not be covered and should contact their healthcare provider directly to request testing. Individuals without valid ID or health insurance may still be eligible for testing through [Santa Clara County](#).

“It is a great honor to support the city of Milpitas in this program to test members of the community. We understand the very personal, real-life impact that COVID-19 is having,” said

Dr. Jyotsna Shah, President and Laboratory Director at IGeneX. “IGeneX has been specializing in molecular and immunological diagnostic testing for nearly 30 years, and to be able to leverage our experience in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic is very rewarding.”

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 will be contacted by City staff within 24 hours. Those who have negative test results indicating no presence of COVID-19 will have their results mailed to them.

After the completion of the two-week pilot testing period, appointments for the mobile testing site will be made by City staff, managers of care facilities and mobile home parks, or essential businesses. Information about mobile testing will be disseminated on social media sites, the City website, flyers, and through community partners.

The cost to run the testing site through the end of the fiscal year is estimated to be \$75,000, much of which may be reimbursed by FEMA.

The opening of this mobile testing site is a crucial step for the City of Milpitas, and Santa Clara County, on the path to a safe reopening.

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About the City of Milpitas

Located at the southern end of San Francisco Bay, Milpitas is a progressive community that is an integral part of Silicon Valley. A full-service city with water utility, sewer utility, police and fire services, Milpitas celebrates a diverse population of nearly 80,000. Under a Council-Manager form of government, the City Council has established the following seven priority areas of service and policy: public safety, environment, transportation and transit, economic development and job growth, neighborhoods and housing, community wellness and open space, and governance and administration.

About IGeneX

For over 25 years, IGeneX has been at the forefront of research and development of diagnostic testing for Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases. The company’s expansive molecular and immunological test menu, technical expertise, and patient-first approach have made them the choice of many healthcare providers. Everyone at IGeneX is passionate about improving the accuracy and speed of diagnosing tick-borne diseases with more precise and advanced testing options. Learn more at igenex.com.

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MUSD Coronavirus Webpage: [MUSD Coronavirus Webpage with Updates](#)

City of Milpitas Coronavirus Webpage: [City of Milpitas Coronavirus Updates](#)
Public Health Website: <http://sccphd.org/coronavirus>
Public Health Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sccpublichealth/>
Public Health Instagram: @scc_publichealth
Public Health Twitter: @HealthySCC

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