Public Order Under City of Los Angeles Emergency Authority

Issue Date: April 6, 2022

Subject: Schools and Conditional Use Permits During COVID-19 Emergency

As schools prepare to offer in-classroom instruction and extra-curricular activities during the COVID-19 pandemic, they may need to significantly alter their facilities or operations to protect the health of students, teachers and staff. Many of these schools operate under City-approved conditional use permits (CUPs) that include specific conditions that may be in conflict with critical health and safety practices necessary during the emergency period.

To aid in our efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Los Angeles under the provisions of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, Chapter 3, Section 8.29 to promulgate, issue, and enforce emergency rules, regulations, orders, and directives, I hereby declare that the Schools and Conditional Use Permits During COVID-19 Emergency Order, dated July 20, 2021, is withdrawn and superseded by this Order, which is necessary for the protection of life and property in the City of Los Angeles, and I hereby order, effective immediately, until the expiration of the City’s declared emergency, or through the end of the 2022-23 school year, whichever is later, that:

1. Schools (K-12) with CUPs which intend to reopen facilities for in-person instruction or extra-curricular activities that require temporary changes to their CUP conditions shall submit temporary operating plans for the applicable school year, including any Summer sessions, to the Department of City Planning’s Case Management Unit at planning.schools@lacity.org, to confirm that the temporary conditions fall within the categories outlined in the Emergency Order, including:

   a. Transportation and Access
      i. Allowance of expanded hours for transportation to and from campus, and for student pick-up and drop-off.
      ii. Allowance for expansion of pick-up and drop-off areas and modified usage of existing authorized parking areas.
iii. Allowance to temporarily waive busing requirements, carpooling requirements, parking requirements, average vehicle ridership requirements, and limits on daily vehicle trips.

b. **Academic Calendar and Operating Hours**
   
i. Allowance of adjusted school year calendars (e.g., start dates, number of school days, number of school-related events including open houses, parent/teacher nights, sporting activities, and recitals).
   
ii. Allowance for daily instruction up to 6:00 PM as needed, and allowance of weekend instruction to accommodate staggered schedules.
   
iii. Allowance for adjusted time, frequency, and access for instruction, outdoor physical education, sports, recess, meal times, and other related activities.
   
iv. Allowance for expanded summer school and after-school program hours.

c. **Facilities**
   
i. Allowance for increased number of classrooms through conversion of existing facilities.
   
ii. Allowance for use of temporary structures and tents that do not feature a permanent foundation, including for use as temporary classroom space.
   
iii. Allowance for installation of temporary shade canopies, seating, and outdoor tables.
   
iv. Allowance for instruction and school activities to occur in outside areas, including parking areas, fields, and open spaces.

d. **Staff and Students**
   
i. Allowance for increased faculty and staff to support smaller classroom sizes.
   
ii. No increase in maximum student enrollment.

2. A copy of the Letter of Decision approving the original CUP, the approved “Exhibit A” and a proposed/updated “Exhibit A” must be provided to the Department of City Planning’s Case Management Unit at the time of the temporary operating plan request.

3. If a temporary operating plan for a previous school year has been issued pursuant to an operative CUP under the provisions of this Order, such plan shall remain in effect for the 2021-2022 school year and a request to extend the temporary operating plan for the 2022-2023 school year shall be submitted to the Department of City Planning's Case Management Unit, in compliance with the terms of this Order.
4. In the event those operating plans should change, schools shall update and resubmit their temporary operating plans to the Department of City Planning’s Case Management Unit, in compliance with the terms of this Order.

5. The Department of City Planning’s Case Management Unit shall have the authority to terminate a temporary operating plan if it is found to exceed the terms of this Order or for a school’s failure to comply with the terms of the temporary operating plan. Notwithstanding this Order, nothing affects the City’s authority to address nuisance activities under relevant law.

6. To the extent that any approval issued pursuant to this Order results in the modification or deletion of an adopted mitigation measure, the City finds that the measure is infeasible and the modification or deletion is necessary to prevent or mitigate the public health threat to students, faculty and employees from COVID-19 and such action is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(4).

7. It is the responsibility of the schools seeking approval of temporary operating plans to obtain building permits needed from the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety for approval of temporary physical improvements.

8. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to conflict with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health orders or protocols.

_______________________
Eric Garcetti, MAYOR

Dated: April 6, 2022, at Los Angeles, California
Time: 8:30a.m.

Filed with the City Clerk
Date: _____________________
Time: _____________________
By: ______________________