Curfew in Effect, San Mateo Plans for Peaceful Protest

Starting this evening, there is now a curfew in effect across San Mateo County from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. The County Board of Supervisors took this emergency action to maintain public safety as civil unrest continues in areas of the Bay Area and nation. The only people allowed to be outside between 8:30 p.m. and 5 a.m. are those going home, going to work, getting healthcare, first responders including government staff doing emergency operations, those working for news media or people who are unhoused. Businesses must close to the public by 8:30 p.m. The curfew is in effect for two evenings, June 2-4.

We understand this is an extraordinary step that is being taken, and we are working diligently to keep everyone in our community safe.

Protest Planned in San Mateo June 3
We are aware of a planned demonstration/walk in the wake of the tragic death of George Floyd in Minneapolis. This demonstration is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3 at 5 p.m. and will start at City Hall, 330 W. 20th Ave., and end at the Police Station, 200 Franklin Parkway, in San Mateo.

Freedom of speech is a fundamental right in our country and peaceful demonstrations are welcome in San Mateo. However, we will not tolerate violence, property destruction, and criminal behavior in San Mateo. The City has historically experienced peaceful and respectful protests, and we expect and hope Wednesday’s demonstration is no different. Our San Mateo Police Department is collaborating with the organizers and we are fully committed to keeping our community safe.

To increase safety for demonstrators, law enforcement, and our community, the Police Department will have a strong presence to allow for a peaceful and respectful demonstration. Now more than ever, we need to focus our words and our actions on things that bring our community together.

We fully support peaceful protesting and those that wish to express their voices and feelings in a peaceful and lawful manner. We are actively monitoring the situation and at this time, it is important to note that San Mateo has not experienced any riots or looting. Those who violate the law will be sought out and held accountable for their actions through the criminal justice system. We are proactively outreaching to our local businesses and encourage our residents to take proactive steps to be prepared by continuing safety precautions like keeping your doors and windows locked, and reporting suspicious behavior to the police.

Peaceful demonstrations took place in Menlo Park and San Carlos yesterday. Additional demonstrations are also planned to take place in Redwood City today, East Palo Alto on Wednesday, and South San Francisco on Thursday.

Read the County’s press release for information about the curfew.

Police Chief Barberini has also released a community message addressing the tragic death of George Floyd. Please feel free to contact communications@cityofsanmateo.org with any questions or concerns you may have. You may also contact our Police Department at pdpio@cityofsanmateo.org or (650) 522-7700. If you have an emergency or need to report in-progress criminal activity, please call 9-1-1.

Sincerely,
City Manager Drew Corbett