June 15th End of Tiers For Fears
Governor Gavin Newsom recently announced that his new plan is to lift nearly all COVID-19 health restrictions in California by June 15, 2021. Orange County will most certainly embrace the re-openings which will mean businesses, including bars and restaurants, will be allowed to operate at 100% capacity. However, the State will still impose a mask mandate.

The reversion to near normalcy is largely a result of the state’s increasing success with vaccine distribution. As of April 21, 2021, over 26 million doses of vaccines have been administered in California. Over 43% of residents have received at least one dose. In Orange County, 44% of County residents have received one dose, while 28% of the County population is fully vaccinated.

The single dose vaccine by Johnson & Johnson accounts for 10% of vaccines in California, although its use is currently suspended.
MWDOC Requests Legislative Support
The Municipal Water District of Orange County at its April 21st Board Meeting voted to oppose unless amended, two identical bills SB342 (Gonzalez) and AB1296 (Kamlagen). The bills as drafted would increase the size of the South Coast Air Quality Management District by two seats by requiring the appointment of two environmental justice representatives to the Board. MWDOC’s opposition centers around the expansion of the Board, noting that there are three Sacramento political appointments that could accommodate this goal if so desired. MWDOC announced that they are hoping local districts will also express their opposition to these two measures.

The April 14, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting of the Commission is Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 8:15 a.m.

New PPIC Poll Released
The PPIC (Public Policy Institute of California) recently released the results of their most recent poll. Of great interest, this is the third consecutive poll that shows if the election was held today, Governor Newsom would survive the looming recall against him. Perhaps anger over the French Laundry scandal has subsided.
The poll of 1,174 likely voters was conducted March 14-23, 2021 and has a margin of error of +/- 3.9% with a confidence level of 95%. The poll clearly reaffirms California's reputation as progressive in their political attitudes.

Below are some of the poll questions and the results:

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Gavin Newsom is handling his job as governor of California?
- 54% approve
- 36% disapprove
- 10% don't know

There is an effort under way to remove Governor Gavin Newsom from office in a recall election. If a special election to recall Governor Newsom were held today, would you vote yes to remove Newsom as governor or no to keep Newsom as governor?
- 40% yes, remove Newsom
- 56% no, keep Newsom
- 5% don't know

Would you say that California is in an economic recession, or not?
- 61% YES
  - 25% - yes, serious recession
  - 24% - yes, moderate recession
  - 10% - yes, mild recession
  - 2% - yes, don’t know
- 34% NO, not in an economic recession
- 5% don’t know

Recently, the California legislature passed and Governor Newsom signed into law a $7.6 billion COVID relief package that includes a one-time $600 payment to qualifying lower-income Californians, as well as $2.1 billion in immediate relief for small businesses, and over $400 million in stipends for state subsidized child care and preschool. Do you favor or oppose this relief package?
- 75% favor
- 20% oppose
- 5% don’t know

When you combine all of the taxes you pay to state and local governments, do you feel that you pay much more than you should, somewhat more than you should, about the right amount, or less than you should?
- 30% much more
- 27% somewhat more
- 36% about the right amount
- 4% less than you should
- 3% don’t know
In general, which of the following statements do you agree with more [1] I’d rather pay higher taxes and have a state government that provides more services OR [2] I’d rather pay lower taxes and have a state government that provides fewer services?
   52% higher taxes and more services
   44% lower taxes and fewer services
   4% don’t know

Does the cost of your housing make you and your family seriously consider moving away from the part of California you live in now? “Does it make you consider moving elsewhere in California, or outside of the state?”
   43% YES
   8% - yes, elsewhere in California
   33% - yes, outside the state
   2% - yes, other
   56% NO
   1% don’t know

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Joe Biden is handling his job as president?
   65% approve
   30% disapprove
   5% don’t know

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way the US Congress is handling its job?
   42% approve
   51% disapprove
   6% don’t know

As you may know, in response to the coronavirus outbreak Congress passed and President Biden signed into law a bill that would provide $1.9 trillion dollars in economic aid to businesses, individuals, and state and local governments. All in all, do you favor or oppose this bill?
   73% favor
   25% oppose
   2% don’t know

Which comes closer to your view about where the US stands in the coronavirus outbreak: [1] the worst is behind us OR [2] the worst is yet to come?
   74% the worst is behind us
   21% the worst is yet to come
   4% don’t know

Do you favor or oppose providing health care coverage for undocumented immigrants in California?
   66% favor
   31% oppose
   3% don’t know
Orange County COVID-19 Stats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORANGE COUNTY COVID-19 STATS</th>
<th>AS OF 4/22/2021</th>
<th>AS OF 3/18/2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CUMULATIVE CASES TO DATE</td>
<td>253,275</td>
<td>251,611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUMULATIVE DEATHS TO DATE</td>
<td>4,910</td>
<td>4,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEATHS REPORTED TODAY</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUMULATIVE TESTS TO DATE</td>
<td>3,578,578</td>
<td>3,428,287</td>
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<tr>
<td>TESTS REPORTED TODAY</td>
<td>10,511</td>
<td>13,998</td>
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<tr>
<td>CASES CURRENTLY HOSPITALIZED</td>
<td>110 *</td>
<td>113 *</td>
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<tr>
<td>CASES CURRENTLY IN ICU</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUMULATIVE RECOVERED TO DATE</td>
<td>245,666 *</td>
<td>243,910 *</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* = INCLUDES ICU CASES

Where Orange County Ranks [as of 4/22/2021]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>POPULATION</th>
<th>CONFIRMED CASES</th>
<th>DEATHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
<td>40,129,160</td>
<td>3,624,838</td>
<td>59,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOS ANGELES COUNTY</td>
<td>10,247,557</td>
<td>1,189,530</td>
<td>23,729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORANGE COUNTY</td>
<td>3,228,519</td>
<td>253,275</td>
<td>4,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY</td>
<td>2,217,398</td>
<td>290,049</td>
<td>4,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIVERSIDE COUNTY</td>
<td>2,468,145</td>
<td>286,299</td>
<td>4,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAN DIEGO COUNTY</td>
<td>3,370,418</td>
<td>275,632</td>
<td>3,681</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Snowpack Again Disappoints

The Department of Water Resources conducted their April 1\textsuperscript{st} measurement of the California snowpack and reported that water content is just 59\% of average for this time of year. This is down from 61\% as measured on March 1\textsuperscript{st}. It is however an improvement from the 53\% measurement from April 1, 2020. The next snowpack measurement will take place April 29, 2021.

Waning La Niña Still Leaves It’s Mark

As the current La Niña weakens, it still shoulders much of the blame for California’s recent parched conditions. The change in weather patterns caused by La Niña shifted plentiful amounts of rain from the Golden State to Oregon and Washington. Another interesting fact about the current La Niña is the effect on worldwide temperatures. This March the world’s temperatures dropped to 1/100 of a degree below the last 30 year world temperature average. The dropping temperatures have been a lagging effect of this La Niña.