

September 16, 2020

Dear Norwalk Resident,

On September 10, 2020, the Department of State Hospitals held a teleconference Town Hall meeting with residents regarding the State's plans to renovate and possibly utilize the formerly vacant California Youth Authority (CYA) facility. Its purpose is to primarily house patients who have not tested positive for COVID-19.

The state was compelled to inform residents of their intent to use the CYA facility due in part to Emergency Ordinance #20-1719U recently passed by the Norwalk City Council. This ordinance outlines the importance of having state and local agencies work together prior to the implementation of any homeless or COVID-19 related plans. The City Council felt it was imperative that the State clearly provide information to residents regarding proper safety protocols and also answer residents' questions.

Some key points discussed during this Town Hall meeting were:


- This is a State action, initiated by the Department of State Hospitals.
- The State has not decided whether they will use the facility, but are simply preparing for its possible use.
- Extensive safety measures are currently being put in place to house patients that have not tested positive for COVID-19.
- The State has signed a one-year lease for the use of this facility with the State Corrections Department. The lease was signed in August of this year.
- The State has no plans to interfere with possible economic development planned for this site by the City of Norwalk.

Given the importance of keeping residents fully informed, the City would like to further inform residents that an additional teleconference Town Hall meeting has been scheduled with Metropolitan State Hospital.

This meeting is scheduled for **October 8, 2020, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.** We will provide further details regarding this event on our website and social media pages. You can access our website at www.norwalk.org and facebook page [@cityofnorwalkca](https://www.facebook.com/cityofnorwalkca).

You may direct all inquiries directly to the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) at: (916) 654-2410 or email their Public Information Office, Claudine Hanna at: Claudine.Hanna@DSH.ca.gov.

Respectfully,



Jennifer Perez
Mayor