

CAPITOL OFFICE
1530 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE
BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-6235
FAX: (202) 225-2202

DISTRICT OFFICE
350 SOUTH BIXEL STREET, SUITE 120
LOS ANGELES, CA 90017
PHONE: (213) 481-1425
FAX: (213) 481-1427

gomez.house.gov



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
JIMMY GOMEZ
34TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKER AND FAMILY
SUPPORT

**COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND REFORM**

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT

ASSISTANT WHIP

March 25, 2021

The Honorable Robert J. Fenton, Jr
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Mr. Fenton:

I write to express my deep concern over recent communications from the Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) indicating the agency intends to close the Community Vaccination Center (CVC) at California State University, Los Angeles on April 13. Failure to maintain current vaccine supply in the area at this juncture could result in more harm to communities already bearing the brunt of this national public health and economic crisis. I respectfully request that FEMA extend operations or assist local officials in keeping the CVC open by maintaining the federal vaccine supply and providing infrastructure and personnel support until at least May 1, 2021.

The opening of the FEMA vaccination site at Cal State Los Angeles represented a significant milestone in the COVID-19 response for Angelenos in the 34th Congressional District. The site targets hard-hit communities — people who are low-income, communities of color, immigrant communities, and frontline essential workers. It also targets vulnerable communities with lack of transportation or mobility issues.

The CVC at Cal State Los Angeles is capable of administering 6,000 doses per day, and because it receives vaccine supplies directly from the federal government, its operations are a vital supplement to doses being administered by the county and state. Although we have made significant strides in implementing an equity strategy, supply shortages continue to get in the way of access for communities surrounding the site. As of March 12, 2021, only 17.8% of the East LA population and 17.3% of the Boyle Heights population have been vaccinated compared to approximately 30% of the population in Los Angeles. Reducing vaccine supply during an already critical time is alarming and could result in an even greater vaccine deficit.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss my request with you personally. The lives of vulnerable communities are hanging in the balance and action must be taken to prevent more inequitable harm from occurring.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jimmy Gomez", with a stylized, flowing script.

Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress