

DELIVERING NEWS TO THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY



HOME LATEST NEWS NEWS FEATURES OPINIONS CONTACT ABOUT US THE TALK OF SANTA CLARITA SALES

Garcia pledges to campaign against mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations, slam health officials, in series of tweets

AUGUST 19, 2021 BY RYAN MANCINI (EDIT)

2 COMMENTS

- NEW VOICES
- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
- CONTRIBUTIONS
- EDITORIALS
- I PROCLAIM
- CARTOONS

Search this website

CATCH UP WITH THE PROCLAIMER!

Enter your email address to subscribe to The Proclaimer and receive notifications of new stories by email.

Email Address

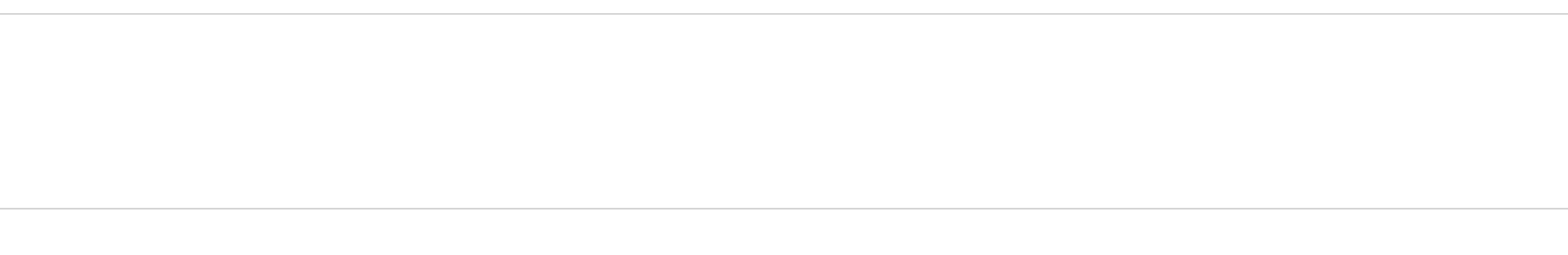
SUBSCRIBE



In a tweet stating a "need to balance how much power we give to health care officials," Rep. Mike Garcia (R-Santa Clarita) can be seen speaking to L.A. County Department of Public Health director Barbara Ferrer. Courtesy of Garcia's campaign Twitter account.

Following a litany of tweets questioning local and federal health officials on guidelines and requirements, Rep. Mike Garcia (R-Santa Clarita) voiced his opposition to mandatory COVID-19 vaccines for students in the 25th Congressional District in a Thursday tweet.

"I will actively and publicly campaign against any local school board member within CA-25 district lines who votes to support mandatory Covid vaccines for our kids," he said through his campaign account.



Garcia's tweet shared a link to a Los Angeles Times story reporting on Wednesday that the Culver City Unified School District issued a vaccine requirement "for all eligible students – believed to be the first such requirement in California," the story opens.

Garcia's Santa Clarita office responded to multiple requests for comment, however any clarification addressing the tweet was not returned from there or his Washington, D.C., office in the hours between the initial request and this story's publication.

At present, Santa Clarita Valley school districts have no vaccine requirements in place for students. The Los Angeles Unified School District announced on Aug. 13 that all teachers and staff are required to be fully vaccinated by Oct. 15 or submit to weekly testing.

Comments to the tweet questioned his opposition. One tweet asked if opposing mandatory vaccinations was "a politically smart position to take in CA-25?"

"Why are you so much more concerned by the vaccine that's saving lives than the disease that's killed 625,000 Americans since last year?" Santa Clarita resident Mike Devlin asked.

Garcia's tweet followed another [from his official congressional account](#) where he met virtually with L.A. County Department of Public Health director Barbara Ferrer to discuss why new orders were being put in place in response to the rise in COVID-19 cases linked to plateaued vaccination rates and the Delta variant.

"We need to balance how much power we give to health care officials making these unwarranted mandates," the tweet concluded.

He followed the tweet to add that he received his vaccine following consultation from his doctor and that he "will continue to advocate for individual choice and support our local business community. No government entity should mandate the vaccine."

In a thread of tweets posted on Wednesday, the congressman [called upon](#) the Los Angeles County and Ventura County Boards of Supervisors to "not rely solely on the inputs of the public health officials."

"Their perspective is myopic and doesn't account for the mental health, economic health and overall condition of our nation that suffers as a result of mask and vaccine mandates," he continued.

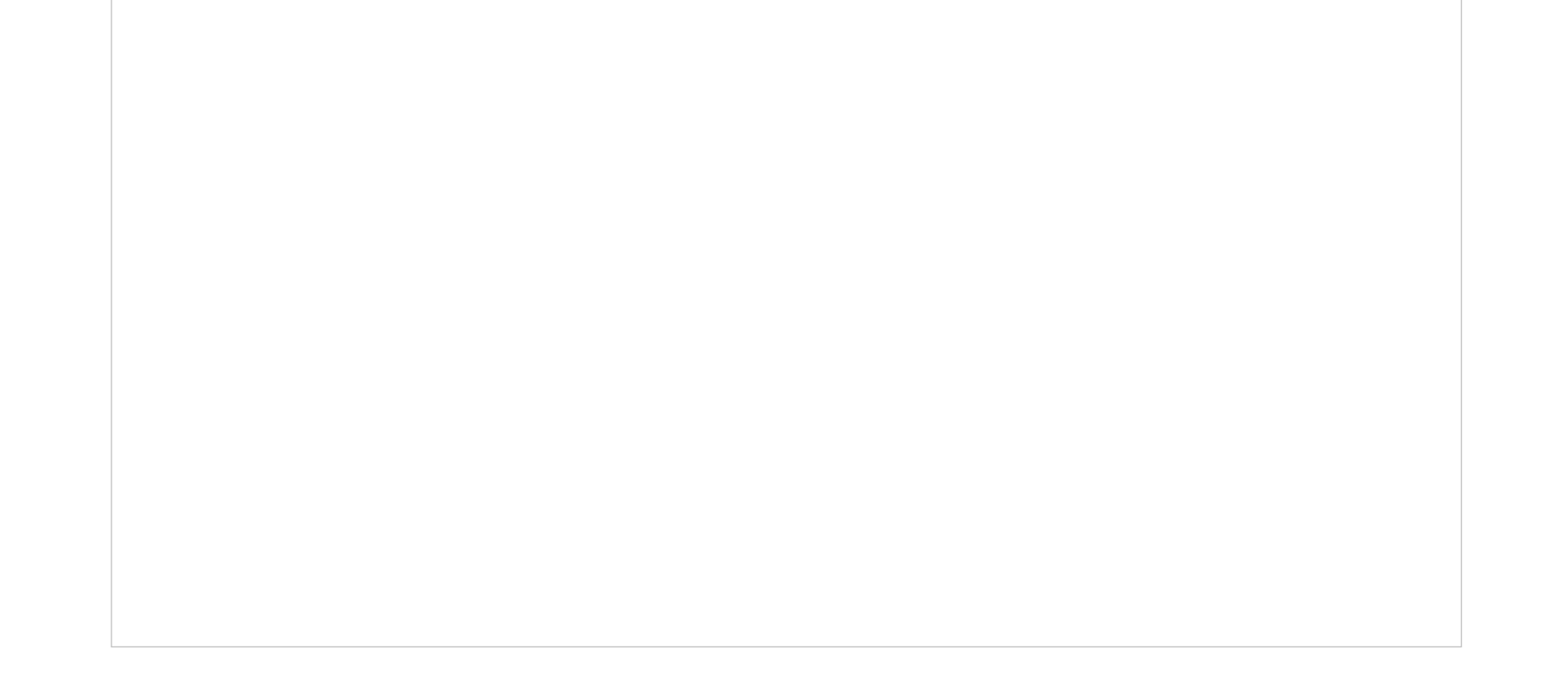
He went on to blame unnamed "elected officials" for giving the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and an unnamed "county level" public health department "too much authority and power" and for not caring "enough about the impacts on business owners, workers, parents, children and our constitution."

At [the end of the thread](#), Garcia "encourage[d] everyone to have a discussion with their doctors about the vaccine. Get the facts from medical professionals, not social media or word of mouth."

Thursday's tweet was posted less than 12 hours before the L.A. County Department of Public Health's [modified order](#) requiring residents to wear masks at all outdoor events goes into effect.

The L.A. County Department of Public Health reported on Thursday 3,239 new COVID-19 cases and 34 new deaths, with 1,790 current hospitalizations. After 35 new deaths were reported on Thursday, the total number of COVID-19 deaths went up to 25,002 in L.A. County. At least 63% of county residents are fully vaccinated.

"These increases (in cases, hospitalizations and deaths) do remind us that the virus continues to cause debilitating and dangerous illness among many who are infected, and the losses we suffer now are particularly sad because almost all of them are preventable with an extremely safe and widely available vaccine," Ferrer [said during a briefing Thursday](#).



Tips? Leave a message with The Santa Clarita Valley Proclaimer: (661) 463-3228

Share this:

Twitter Facebook

[Customize buttons](#)

Like this:

Loading...

- Marcy Rothenberg:** Carpetbagging, the gift that keeps on hurting CA-25 Dems July 2, 2021 In "Contributions"
- Refresher? Here's the lineup of candidates running for Congress, Assembly and city council next year (as of Dec. 2021)** December 15, 2021 In "News Features"
- Cartoon: The Quick and the Unmasked** January 28, 2022 In "Cartoons"

Ryan Mancini

Ryan Mancini is a journalist, editor and a graduate of California State University, Northridge. Born in Los Angeles, he and his family moved to the Santa Clarita Valley in 2002. He previously covered local news for The Daily Sundial and The Santa Clarita Valley Signal, and he is also a host of the arts and entertainment podcast "Mars on Life."

FILED UNDER: COMMUNITY, CORONAVIRUS, LATEST NEWS, POLITICS TAGGED WITH: CORONAVIRUS, COVID-19, PANDEMIC, REP. MIKE GARCIA, SANTA CLARITA, SANTA CLARITA VALLEY, VACCINE

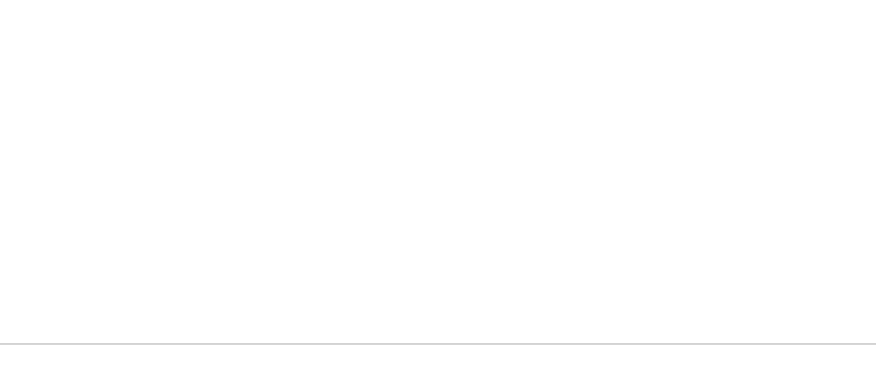
COMMENTS

- susieykaufman** says August 19, 2021 at 9:51 pm (Edit) He's just clearly uneducated, doesn't believe in — or WANT to believe in — science, and he is a SELFISH human being. When he speaks, it's surely evident that we need an INTELLIGENT Santa Clarita resident, a Democrat, to knock him off his chair. Loading... Reply
- Diane Babko** says August 20, 2021 at 2:28 pm (Edit) Yes, he needs to go! Loading... Reply

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

THE TALK OF SANTA CLARITA



TRANSLATE

Select Language

Powered by Google Translate

POPULAR TAGS

- 2022 Midterms (23) CA25 (17) coronavirus (20) COVID-19 (31) election (26) pandemic (13) Rep. Mike Garcia (24) [Santa Clarita \(107\)](#) [Santa Clarita Valley \(103\)](#) [vaccine \(16\)](#)