

COMMUNITY



Community Emergency Response Team volunteers Charles Eisenberg, left, and Kailas Rathod use an extended fruit picker to drop a box of free masks into a car in Irvine on Saturday. City officials are encouraging citizens to think safely. PHOTOS BY MINDY SCHAUER – STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# IRVINE PUTTING MASKS IN HANDS

City is providing face coverings to encourage residents to stay safe

To make it easier for residents to comply with local face covering rules, Irvine gave away boxes of disposable masks to residents at a drive-up event on Saturday at the Civic Center.

Donated by developer **FivePoint Holdings**, the masks handed out on Saturday were the city's latest salvo intended to stop the spread of the coronavirus in the community. City officials recently gave 100,000 masks to the Irvine Unified School District for students and staff, and they plan to provide masks for child care centers, seniors, emergency responders and businesses.



Irvine City Council member Anthony Kuo waves to motorists on Saturday.

Irvine is also the only city in Orange County to run its own COVID-19 testing program for city

employees and anyone who lives or works in the city. "Since this crisis began, the

health and safety of our community has been our top priority," Irvine Mayor Christina Shea said in a news release.



Bicyclists cruise past a long line of waiting cars wrapped around Irvine City Hall during a mask giveaway on Saturday.