

March 20, 2020

To All City of Livingston Residents

The City of Livingston is actively monitoring the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak on behalf of our residents, businesses and schools. Providing updates and information on how COVID-19 is affecting the community and industry — including government orders, general recommendations, links to U.S. government resources and more. All of this is available on our website and City of Livingston Facebook Page.

In addition we have the latest State of California "states of emergency" is also posted, including our City of Livingston declaration (March 17, 2020). This provides our municipalities and our staff with the flexibility to react quickly to the constantly changing conditions resulting from COVID-19.

We would like to communicate that expertise matters so we will <u>not pretend or communicate</u> something out of our expertise.

The City has suspended all of its events, including festivals and we have communicated this same response be implemented by the general population.

The health and safety of our residents is our top and guiding priority. Since I communicated (letters went out March 12, 2020, in multiple languages) the impact of the COVID-19 situation has rapidly escalated. Among other things, many national events have been cancelled, numerous "State of Emergency" proclamations have been issued, schools have closed across the nation, and professional and collegiate sports organizations have cancelled or suspended their seasons.

In consideration of these and other developments, and in consultation with the Livingston City Council we have decided to close City Hall, the Police Department, Public Works and other public facilities (March 18, 2020) as it relates to face to face contact. Please be assured that this will not affect the delivery of essential services whether it be Police, Fire, Solid Waste, Sewer or Water. Even though there will be no direct public contact our City government will continue to function.

Due to the recent Covid-19 pandemic, all city Department have completed the following to date to prepare and communicate:

- Staff are on multiple conference calls daily and working around the clock to keep the city operational.
 - o Staff is in constant contact with the County's Emergency Operations Center
 - Merced County Health Department
 - Public Information Officers

- Other elected officials
- o In addition to conducting normal day to day business.
- Management has provided staff direction on all aspects of city functionality, including posting information on our social media platforms and making direct contact with the business, while maintaining the proper safety precautions.
- We have ordered safety equipment for all of our officers and first responders from the onset of this event. To date, they have been given kits that contain, gloves, and N95 masks. Safety goggles are expected to arrive on 03/24/20.
- We have implemented daily sanitization routines of all departments and emergency vehicles.
- All employees received continuous reinforcement on following the safety guidelines set forth by the Merced County Health Department.
- The City and the Livingston Police Department Incident Action Plan has been activated at a Level 3.
- We have halted non-essential duties, such as animal control stray animals and livestock ordinance call for service and recreation department activities.
- School resource officers and patrol officers are on hand at schools during the times that the food services are providing meals to students.
- We have instructed all employees on what to do if they become infected.
- Provided Hotline Number: (209) 381-1180 and Constant Contact Links https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/Sr5V0Pm/covid19
- We have encouraged our residents, our businesses and our vendors to call, email, fax or conduct their City business online, including payments over the phone.
- The City of Livingston has communicated that late fees will be suspended at this time.
- The City of Livingston has communicated that we will not be implementing shut-offs.
- The City of Livingston maintains constant contact with
 - School Districts
 - o Livingston Community Health
 - o Businesses
 - o Faith Based Organizations
- The City of Livingston will be broadcasting council meetings live and allowing residents to conference call into the meetings by calling (605) 468-8002 Access Code: 156811#.

A global, novel virus will unfortunately keep us contained in our homes—maybe for months—is already reorienting our relationship with you the public, but rest assured that we are doing everything we can to best serve you with this new normal.

We appreciate your patience as we manage this situation, and we will immediately communicate items of importance using different platforms.

José Antonio Ramírez City Manager