



PRESS RELEASE

CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE RESPONSE AND UPDATE TO COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)

3/13/2020...San Clemente, California... City administrators and public safety officials are working closely with county, state, and federal partners to monitor the outbreak of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and are mobilized to respond in our region. The Orange County Healthcare Agency (OCHCA) is the lead agency responsible for coronavirus response countywide. The City of San Clemente works in partnership with the County and other local, state and federal health officials to receive guidance and coordinate response.

City Services & Facilities

The City is taking steps to develop its Continuity of Operation Plans to ensure all critical functions of City government remain operational during emergency events, including infectious disease emergencies. For individuals or businesses that need to conduct business with the City, City Hall remains open. Be advised, many services may be conducted online, such as building permits, business licenses and fee payments. The public is encouraged to take advantage of these online services. Non-essential services may be curtailed in

coordination with countywide response measures moving forward. For questions regarding permitting and billing, contact Community Development at (949) 361-6100.

The Community Center, San Clemente Aquatics Center, and Ole Hanson Beach Club remain open for public use and recreation classes. To maintain a safe and clean environment, staff are wiping down surfaces of tables and chairs after each use, wiping down lobby furniture, door handles, and public counters several times per day. Additional antibacterial hand sanitizer stations are available throughout these facilities and sinks and soap are also available for use.

Most recreation classes are still in operation; however, some water fitness class capacities have been reduced to heed the advice from California Department of Public Health regarding group meetings with higher risk groups. Notices regarding effected classes will be sent via e-mail to registered class participants and further direction will be provided.

The City strongly encourages participants to stay home if they are sick. With proper notice, the City will evaluate individual requests for a prorated credit for missed days due to illness with a doctor's note. In accordance with our refund policy, full or partial refunds will be issued should the City cancel a full session or individual classes. For questions regarding specific classes, rentals, or events, please contact the Recreation Division at (949) 361-8264 or (949) 429-8797.

The Dorothy Visser Senior Center is closed. All classes and programming are cancelled until the end of March. Meals-on-Wheels will continue to provide regular assistance to those in need. While Community Dining has been cancelled, to-go lunches will be available for pickup with advanced notice to the Senior Center.

Ongoing Efforts

According to the County Health Officials, the virus is not currently spreading widely in our region. The immediate health risk to the general public from the virus causing COVID-19 is thought to be low both in the U.S. and in San Clemente. However, there are steps the City is taking to help minimize the risk of COVID-19 spread:

- Increasing cleaning/disinfecting schedules at City facilities, playgrounds, and restrooms
- Contacting large event organizers for contingency plans
- Sharing County Health and CDC information through newsletters and social media
- Encouraging the use of online services and viewing of public meetings via the City's YouTube channel

City administrators attend all COVID-19 county briefings, and the City is following recommendations of the Orange County Healthcare Agency and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The public is encouraged to refer to the OCHCA website for the latest information at [this link](#).

The activities and events surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic are an evolving situation and the City may make changes to its operations as deemed necessary. The City will continue to relay information from the county and updates regarding City operations via its website and social media sites (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter).

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