

City of Lovington

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For Immediate Release
March 12, 2020
7:00 p.m.

CORONAVIRUS (“COVID-19”) UPDATE

LOVINGTON, N.M. – Thursday, March 12, 2020 – Today the New Mexico Department of Public Health issued a “Public Health Order” which detailed additional measures which should be taken by citizens throughout the state. This directive states that mass gatherings of 100 or more individuals in any confined indoor or outdoor spaces are hereby prohibited until further notice. This includes auditoriums, stadiums, large conference halls, and theaters. This does not include normal operations at airports, other forms of transit or shopping malls. This does not include family gatherings such as weddings or funerals, shelters, retail or grocery stores, typical office environments, schools, hospitals, clinics, nursing homes or places of worship operating during normal business hours.

The order also repeated the preventative precautions which have already been disseminated to the public, such as:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Take every day preventive actions.
- Clean your hands often.
- Wash your hands often with soap or water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, sneezing or having been in a public space.
- If soap or water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching high-touch surfaces in public places if possible.
- Wash your hands after touching surfaces in public places.
- Avoid touching your face, nose, eyes, etc.
- Clean and disinfect your home to remove germs.
- Avoid crowds, especially in poorly ventilated spaces.
- Avoid all non-essential travel, including plane trips and cruise ships.

IMPACT ON LOCAL SERVICES:

After careful consideration and following the guidance of health officials, the City of Lovington is required to take the following steps:

- 1) Effective Saturday, March 14, 2020 the Bill McKibben Senior Citizen Center will be closed. Meal preparation will continue. Patrons who are currently using our home delivery meals program will continue to receive their regular service. Patrons who participate in the congregate meals on Mondays, Wednesday, and Friday's at the Senior Center will have the option of having their meals delivered to their home or may pick up their meals at the senior center using a curb side service method. Closure of the center will remain in effect until April 10, 2020 unless the mass gathering prohibition order is extended.
- 2) The Lovington Youth Center will be closed effective Friday, March 13, 2020 and remain closed until April 10, 2020 unless the mass gathering prohibition order is extended.
- 3) The use and reservation of City athletic fields for organized Lovington youth and adult sports leagues is suspended until at least May 1, 2020.

The various department heads of the City of Lovington as well as hospitals and outside agencies have been actively meeting since the onset of this crisis and will continue to monitor developments and make any necessary adjustments as events dictate. We ask for the public's patience during this time, and we thank you for your cooperation. For more information on this COVID-19 and the City's response, please visit: www.lovington.org.