

City Council COVID-19 Update

14April2020

On Wednesday, February 26, 2020, Orange County proclaimed a local emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In accordance with the State and County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Garden Grove has undertaken immediate health and safety measures aimed at reducing the spread and risks associated with the virus. The City has been closely monitoring State and County directives and guidelines to protect public health and slow the spread of COVID-19 in Garden Grove.

As of this afternoon, the Orange County Health Care Agency is reporting 1299 cumulative positive cases to date, including 23 new cases reported today. Garden Grove is reporting out at 39 cases. Cumulative deaths to date is 19 ... no change from yesterday. There are 122 patients currently hospitalized, with 62 in ICU.

Their website, is: ochealthinfo.com, where all of the latest news, FAQs, Infographics, and Guidance can be found regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

From the city of Garden Grove's standpoint, I want to continue emphasizing that the city government is open, functioning, and delivering critical services, albeit under restricted conditions.

--GGPD , OCFA, and Paramedics/EMTs remain fully staffed for first response

--Public Works is on-the-job and maintaining important infrastructure throughout the community

--Community Services continues to provide meals to seniors and children

--The City also has a robust website: ggcity.org that is constantly being updated to help provide COVID-19 information to the community.

--Our Emergency Operations Center, under the direction of Police Chief Tom DaRe remains activated.

--City Hall, Housing Authority, the Public Works Municipal Service Center, on 13802 Newhope, our Family and Community Resource Centers, and Park facilities remain closed to the public, but service and business has shifted online, by telephone, email or mail (I will note that meals still being distributed at our Senior Center, Buena Clinton and Magnolia FRC)

The community is encouraged to enjoy greenspace areas, while maintaining social distancing

A reminder of the cancelled/postponed upcoming City-sponsored events:

- April 18 – Magnolia Park FRC 20th Anniversary
- May 21 – Call to Duty Police Memorial
- May 26 – Garden Grove College Graduates' Reception
- May 22-25 – Strawberry Stomp and Strawberry Festival, also cancelled by SF Board

- Our local emergency declared by the City Manager on March 17, was extended to April 17, and will need to be extended again this week in concurrence with Gov. Newsom's exec order.
- The City continues to temporarily suspend street sweeping citations, water utility shut-offs, and retail delivery truck restrictions.
- We've established a link on the City's webpage promoting local restaurants that are open for "carry-out" orders
- We are continuing to emphasize that panic buying/stockpiling is not necessary. The food supply chain is strong, and we are seeing reductions in shopping lines ... which in return helps our officers and frees them up for police visibility
- Finally, we have built informational links on our website, from the State of California, and other sources that offer guidance on applications for unemployment, disability benefits, paid family leave, and small business assistance, which you'll hear more about that in a bit
- As a touchpoint, on March 19 our Statewide "shelter in place" executive order was issued by Governor Newsom

With this recap, I now want to share some chronological information on COVID-19 activities that have occurred since our last City Council meeting on March 24:

March 24, 2020

- Added unemployment, disability benefits, and paid family leave resource links to the City's COVID-19 page to provide guidance to the Garden Grove community
- City Council approved a local emergency resolution to implement a moratorium on rental evictions and foreclosures through May 31, 2020

March 25, 2020

- Orange County issued a directive to close all parking lots to County beaches, regional parks, wilderness parks, and County trailheads, as well as public restrooms, playgrounds, and park shelters

March 26, 2020

- As mentioned earlier, our local emergency order for the City of Garden Grove was extended to April 17

March 27, 2020

- A toll-free hotline for COVID-19 county resources has been activated by the Orange County EOC; that number is (813) 426-6411.
- Executive Order issued by CA Governor Newsom announced a statewide eviction moratorium

March 30, 2020

- An Economic and Business Recovery Call Center was made operational by Orange County Community Services. The Call Center operates Monday through Friday from 8am – 5pm; and that number is (714) 480-6500

April 3, 2020

- GGUSD in-person classes were suspended through June 12, 2020. At home learning will continue through the end of the school year.
- Press release was issued by Orange County encouraging families to create a Family Preparedness Plan in case of emergency
- I implemented cost containment measures, put into effect immediately, to mitigate impacts of COVID-19:
 - o hiring freeze with the exception of sworn public safety, critical dispatch positions, and certain enterprise positions (infrastructure)
 - o vacant positions
 - o travel/training
 - o telecommuting measures put in place

April 6, 2020

- A temporary moratorium has been placed on the issuance of RV parking citations

April 8, 2020

- CA Governor Newsom signed two executive orders, one to help procure necessary medical supplies to fight COVID-19 and the other to provide additional support for older adults and vulnerable young children by allowing a 60-day waiver for In-Home Supportive Services

- The OC Treasurer-Tax Collector issued a statement regarding their plan to cancel penalties for homeowners, small businesses, and other property owners with significant economic hardships on a case-by-case basis

April 9, 2020

- Strong recommendation issued by the OC Health Care Agency to begin wearing face coverings while at work or outside the home
- COVID-19 direct mailer, CitiWorks, inserted in Garden Grove water bills this past week.

In short, the City continues taking aggressive and proactive steps to address the COVID-19 pandemic. The health and safety of our Garden Grove community is our top priority.

That concludes my remarks, and I want to now have updates from:

Chief DaRe

Patricia Song

Lisa Kim