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#### Your City Representatives

##### Mayor

Norma Hernandez

##### Council Members

- Jerry Bobbitt
- Michael Cleveland
- Marge Nyhagen
- Loren Peterson
- Melodie Selby
- Heather Schermann
- Byron Trop

##### City Administrator

Mike Rizzitiello

625 S. College Ave  
509.529.1200

## A Note From The City Administrator

Here at the City, we continue to provide essential services and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Up to date information on our continued response for Residents is on this webpage: <http://www.cpwa.us/residents/covid19.php>. Information for businesses is included here: [http://www.cpwa.us/businesses/covid-19\\_business\\_resources.php](http://www.cpwa.us/businesses/covid-19_business_resources.php). The public health to this response is conducted by the Unified Command of the Walla Walla County Departments of Community Health & Emergency Management. Updated case counts and information is posted here: [https://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/health\\_department/index.php](https://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/government/health_department/index.php) or can be obtained by calling the COVID-19 County hotline at: 509-524-2647.

Some items pertaining to this COVID-19 situation to take note of:

The City did mail out utility bills. However, per City Emergency Resolution #20-009 if you have been directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic (in quarantine, isolation, out of work directly due to COVID-19) please call the Finance Department to set up a payment plan if you are unable to pay your utility bill. No late fees or utility shutoffs will occur over this time.

City Council meetings are held via the Zoom platform. Please subscribe to the City's Youtube page, as the meetings are streamed live there.

Per the Governor's Order on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, Phase 1 of single family home construction is now once again allowed. Call the City's Community Development Department for questions.

City parks are open as well. However, you need to keep the six feet of social distancing. Active recreation areas such as playgrounds or basketball courts are closed until that element is listed by order of the Governor.

Certain City Public Works projects were deemed essential and work is ongoing with them. This includes getting replacement Drinking Water Well #4 online along Peppers Bridge Rd, continuing work on replacement Drinking Water Well #6 at Whiteman Drive & Maple, water line replacement in the Highland Park/Davin Drive area, and final engineering/construction of the Southwest Wastewater Trunk Line Sewer & Lift Station.

The City is planning to start the College Place Farmers Market the last Thursday in May at 4 PM at Lions Park. More information will be released on the city's website and social media accounts.

City facilities will be closed to the public as long as the Governor's "Stay Safe, Stay Healthy" order is in effect. City staff remain available via phone and email.

Thank you to all essential employees who have worked tirelessly through this pandemic including grocery workers, healthcare professionals, public works, police & fire, and more. Also, congrats to the Class of 2020 graduates from College Place High School, Walla Walla Valley Academy, and Walla Walla University.

This COVID-19 pandemic is a fluid situation. The City works through the Unified Command with Walla Walla County, Providence Healthcare, Long Term Care Facilities, Port, City of Walla Walla, State, State & Federal Legislative Field Offices, and others to coordinate the response to this situation. Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, and together we will get through this!

## Rogers Adventist School

Considering Rogers Adventist School for your child's education for the 20-21 school year? Unfortunately, we can't yet give you an in-person tour of our K-8 school, so visit us virtually. Check out our [virtual tour](#) on our website ([www.rschool.org](http://www.rschool.org)) or select "apply" to see our virtual tour.



The RAS office is open between 8-1, M-F. Call (509)529-1850 with any questions or email [holley.bryant@rogersschool.org](mailto:holley.bryant@rogersschool.org). Discounted enrollment rates available until April 30. Stay home and stay safe!"

## Walla Walla County Rural Library

The Walla Walla County Rural Library District's College Place branch is inching closer to opening. The closure has put our schedule off by about 4-6 weeks, however things are coming together and our very tentative opening day will be around June 1. If you have been by Meadowbrook Plaza recently you may have noticed some new signage on the street-side monument and on the front and back entrances of the College Place branch. And if you've stopped and peeked in the windows, you'll see that the shelving has been installed. During the last week of April, the mobile shelving units will be finished up and the new furniture will arrive. Part of the opening day collection of materials has been delivered to our Service Center and staff is working on processing these items and adding them to the catalog. The rest of the collection will arrive in May. You won't see College Place listed as a location just yet in the catalog, but all of the work to set that up has been completed by our IT department and you'll see it soon.

Chessa Grasso-Hickox has been hired to manage the branch and she's been working with us behind the scenes since April 1. She has several years of experience and a MLIS from the University of Michigan.

The District has been at work during the closure, getting the branch ready for opening, updating policies and procedures, and writing a plan for re-opening. We currently expect to return to the branches May 4-5 and reopen to the public with limited services on May 18. Like our Facebook page to keep on these developments.

## A note from Walla Walla University President John McVay

As I write to you from my home office, it occurs to me that in many ways my College Place neighborhood has never been as lived in as it is right now. There may be less traffic on our streets, but our houses and apartments are being filled (sometimes stretched) to capacity as we all find ourselves adapting in one way or another to a new way of life. Whether you're working (or working out!) at home, setting up space for your kids to take classes at home, or just doing a lot more home cooking, you've likely joined me in being reminded of the value of home. Over the last two months, Walla Walla University has made quite a few adjustments as well. To limit the spread of COVID-19, the university ended face-to-face instruction on March 13, and the majority of students returned to their hometowns. Classes for spring quarter started on March 30 via online instruction, and all summer classes normally held on our College Place campus will be offered online.

In keeping with the Washington state governor's order banning large gatherings and closing K-12 schools through June 19, all WWU public gatherings have been canceled. This includes the WWU commencement celebration scheduled for June 14, which has also been moved to an online format.

Unfortunately, all access to the WWU pool, including community pool access, and other community programs, such as Kidnastics and the children's swim program, will be unavailable through June 19 as well.

Through all of the recent disruptions, I have also experienced moments to treasure. WWU students have found many creative ways to stay connected across the miles. I know from conversations I've had with many of them, however, that they are missing their home away from home in College Place. Our students from near and far have discovered a community here that has embraced them. The City of College Place and Walla Walla University have been linked since the beginning when the university opened in 1892. Now as we face these new challenges together, we're praying for our entire community in this place we call home.



## College Place Farmers Market Update

2020 Farmers Market season is scheduled to start soon. The limited walk-up market will include Essential Vendors. We've made changes to our operations to increase your (and our) safety. Our employees/vendors will be wearing masks and gloves. We strongly urge our customers to wear masks to increase everyone's safety. The market also provides multiple hand washing and hand sanitizing stations. Thank you for your support.

See you soon!

## Update from SonBridge

SonBridge Thrift & Gift Store is eagerly anticipating the day we can reopen our doors to the public for shopping, helping our community, and receiving donations. At this time, we are NOT accepting clothing and household donations since we don't currently have volunteers and staff on-site to process donations. However, SonBridge Dental Clinic continues to serve on a limited basis to those who require infection control and pain management. SonBridge greatly appreciates your willingness to support your community through us and your financial support is greatly appreciated at this time!



## City of College Place During COVID-19

In an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19, City facilities are closed to the public. Staff is still in the office and able to answer questions over the phone. You are still able to pay your utility bills via phone, online through Xpress Bill Pay or your bank, in the mail, or you can drop it off at one of the drop boxes located at City Hall or Lion's Park. If you have any questions please call 509-529-1200 and we will direct you to the correct department. Thank you for your patients and understanding.

### Community Calendar

**May 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM** – City Council Workshop.

**May 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** – City Council Meeting.

All meetings are being held virtually. You can watch a livestream on the City YouTube page at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbx3qrqzLDL\\_05NusReSl-g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbx3qrqzLDL_05NusReSl-g).

Live public comments will not be taken during Council meetings. If you have a comment you would like to make, please submit written comments to Lisa Neissl – City Clerk at [lneissl@cpwa.us](mailto:lneissl@cpwa.us) or mail to 625 S College Avenue, College Place, WA 99324. Comments received by the Clerk no later than 4:00 PM on the meeting date will be added to the public comment section of the meeting for Council and the public to review. Comments will not be read aloud.

Check out our website and Facebook Page for updates!

Unless specified all events are at  
City Hall— 625 S. College Ave

### College Place Department Contacts

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