



City of San Juan Bautista

The “City of History”

March 18, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

REGARDING: CORONAVIRUS UPDATE 2 (COVID-19)

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City Council
Mayor
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Vice V. Mayor
Leslie Jordan

Councilmember
John Freeman

Councilmember
Dan DeVries

Councilmember
César E. Flores

City Manager
Don Reynolds

City Clerk
Laura Cent

City Treasurer
Chuck Geiger

For information about what to do if you, or someone you know is concerned that they may the Virus, contact San Benito County Public Health at (831) 637-5367.

Last night at the regular City Council meeting, the focus was the City’s response to the Coronavirus, (“COVID 19”). The City adopted a resolution declaring a State of Emergency and had a deliberate and thoughtful discussion of how the citizens will shelter in place, and how the City services will be “sheltered.”

Starting Monday, March 23, 2020, City Hall will be closed to the general public, but other essential City services will remain fully operational.

The City is building a special page on its web-site dedicated to COVID 19 with many resources for the public to explore. For now, rest assured that the City’s public safety effort to provide police and fire services remain unchanged. Trash services are unchanged. The City’s Public Works Maintenance staff and licensed operators will also continue to provide quality water to your home and business, and properly process the waste water. These are all essential functions.

The presence of COVID 19 does not impact the City’s water quality. The City’s water and waste water are treated to remove all forms of pollutants, and are not susceptible to contamination of any kind. They are tested by licensed specialists weekly to assure that the highest standards are met. The law requires these test results to be submitted weekly to the State Water Control Board.

The City is closing its non-essential services. The Library and Community Hall are closed until May 1. Special events downtown have been cancelled or postponed through the end of May. The Rib Cook Off and Fiesta Fun Run are re-scheduling their events.

Effective Monday, City Hall will also be closed. It will all remain closed until Friday April 10th and most likely into the month of May. Most of the City’s clerical staff are working from home. Emails, voicemails and other forms of communication with staff will be monitored and responded to throughout the business day.

All Planning Commission, Youth Commission and other City meetings are suspended until further notice. The City Council will meet again by remote access April 21, 2020 at 6 P.M.

By declaring a State of Emergency in the City, the City and our citizens are eligible for several state and federal relief programs. The Small Business Administration (or “SBA”) is offering low interest loans to businesses. The pending federal aid package extends help to the newly unemployed, or under employed and some provision for sick pay. As resources become available, the City will do everything it can to help residents and businesses access them. We are gearing up to become more active on social media, so keep an eye open as this situation can change daily.

The Aromas San Juan Unified School District is providing meals Monday-Friday at the local schools for all children ages 0-18. Every day, the Meals on Wheels program is in full operation bringing food to seniors. The State and San Benito Community Foundation are committed to supporting the non-profits that provide these critical services. The Mission and State Park have closed their doors for now. The public bus services between cities remains open.

Important Links:

Public Health

<https://hhsa.cosb.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/SAN-BENITO-COUNTY-ISSUES-PUBLIC-HEALTH-ORDERPR031720VF.pdf>

<https://www.facebook.com/PublicHealthSBC/>

<https://hhsa.cosb.us/publichealth/>

Bus

<http://www.sanbenitocountyexpress.org/>

SB Foundation

<https://givesanbenito.org/>

ASJUSD

<https://www.asjUSD.k12.ca.us/>

Meals on Wheels

http://www.jdasbcSeniors.org/meals_on_wheels