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Communications

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PRESS RELEASE

City of Winter Park coronavirus disease UPDATE #2

WINTER PARK, FL, an internationally recognized, award winning city with multiple accredited agencies (March 17, 2020) The City of Winter Park continues to monitor the status of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and is working diligently to protect our community. All city departments will continue to provide essential city services including public safety, public works, water and electric utilities. City staff is prepared and ready to serve the community during this situation by taking the following precautionary steps:

CITY HALL AND FACILITIES CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC:

- As of March 17, City Hall and city facilities are closed to the public until further notice. City services and assistance remain available via phone or email.
- The Public Safety Facility at 500 N. Virginia Ave., as well as Fire Stations 62 on Lakemont Avenue and Station 64 on Howell Branch Road, are closed to visitors, except for emergencies.
- Recreation facility closures include:
 - Community Center, Cady Way Pool, Showalter Stadium, golf course, and tennis center.
- Public parks, playgrounds and greenspaces will remain open as usual. Please practice proper social distancing protocol with six feet of space between others.
- Winter Park Farmers' Market held each Saturday is suspended until further notice.

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES & SERVICES:

- Winter Park Fire-Rescue Department is operating normally providing fire and EMS services.
- Winter Park Police Department is operating normally with modified nonemergency responses.
 - For more information, call [407-644-1313](tel:407-644-1313).

EVENTS & GATHERINGS:

- The City Commission meeting scheduled for Monday, March 23, is cancelled.
 - Future Commission meetings are to be determined/announced as they are scheduled.
- City advisory board meetings are cancelled until further notice.
- City events/gatherings of 10 people or more are cancelled/postponed until further notice.
 - Access the city's [calendar of events](#) for specific event cancellations or postponements.
- All recreational programming and events for youth, adults and seniors are cancelled.

UTILITY CUSTOMERS:

Although utility statements and due dates will remain on schedule, we do understand that some customers may experience difficult financial situations during the pandemic. Therefore, we are suspending our disconnection for nonpayment policy until further notice. As always, for utility billing questions please call [407-599-3220](tel:407-599-3220). For outage/service issues, please call [877-811-8700](tel:877-811-8700).

BUSINESS COMMUNITY:

- The recent Executive Order by [Governor Ron DeSantis](#) requires all bars and nightclubs in Florida to be closed for 30 days, beginning at 5 p.m. on March 17. Restaurants are also required to remain below 50% occupancy rate. The city understands this situation is difficult for our business community and is eager to work alongside the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce to help local businesses.
- Although City Hall is closed to the public, Building & Permitting Services will be reviewing plan submittals and issuing permits electronically at permits@cityofwinterpark.org. Inspections will continue on a case-by-case basis. You can schedule inspections online at [Epay](#) or call [407-599-3350](tel:407-599-3350).
- For creative ideas and new initiatives to help local businesses, including curbside food pickup and home delivery options from our local restaurants, please access the [Winter Park Chamber of Commerce](#) website.

Because information regarding the spread of COVID-19 changes on a daily basis, at minimum, please stay informed by using reliable sources including:

- [cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)
- [cityofwinterpark.org](https://www.cityofwinterpark.org)
- [facebook.com/WinterParkEmergencyInfo](https://www.facebook.com/WinterParkEmergencyInfo)
- twitter.com/winterparkfla
- **OUTREACH** – sign up for the city’s emergency notification system (email, text, phone calls)
- [nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com) – sign up for your neighborhood information

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