



# Press Release

City of Artesia, California

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### City of Artesia to Implement Changes to Operations as a Precautionary Response

March 26, 2020 – The City Council met at a Special Meeting on March 25, 2020 and took action to approve a resolution proclaiming the existence of a local emergency to aid the City in responding to the effects of COVID-19 on our community. Additionally, the City Council adopted an urgency ordinance which became effective today to place a moratorium on evictions and foreclosure's related to non-payment of rent or mortgages by those effected by COVID-19. Both documents are available for viewing on the City's website as attachments to the special meeting agenda found [here](#).

The State of California and the County of Los Angeles each issued "Safer at Home Orders for the Control of COVID-19" by their respective Health Officers on March 19, 2020. The Orders took effect at 11:59 p.m. on March 19, 2020 and will continue in effect until at least April 19, 2020. On March 21, 2020 the County of Los Angeles Order was updated to clarify non-essential services and to ban all gathers of any size in an effort to stem or slow the spread of COVID-19. The Orders are summarized below, click [here](#) for the full text of the County Order and [here](#) for the full text of the State Order.

The Orders issued by the State and County:

1. Prohibit public and private gatherings of any size.
2. Require the closure of all non-essential retail and services
3. Permits essential services to remain open with the requirement that social distancing protocols are implemented.
4. Closes indoor and outdoor playgrounds, except those located within childcare centers.
5. A full list of essential businesses which are exempt can be found in the Orders, a few key businesses include:
  - a. Grocery stores including stores that sell products in addition to non-grocery items;
  - b. Food cultivation, including farming, livestock, and fishing;
  - c. Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services for economically disadvantaged individuals;
  - d. Gas stations and automotive services;
  - e. Banks;
  - f. Hardware stores, nurseries and building supplies;
  - g. Plumbing, electricians, custodial, and other trade services;
  - h. Providers which maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation to properties and other essential businesses;
  - i. Mail and shipping services;
  - j. K-12 schools, colleges, universities provided they can meet social distancing requirements;
  - k. Laundromats and personal grooming services;
  - l. Businesses which provide office supplies and support services;
  - m. Transportation services;
  - n. Home-based care for seniors, adults, disabled, or children; and
  - o. Childcare facilities

6. The Orders do not apply to:
  - a. Emergency Services
  - b. Healthcare operations
  - c. Essential infrastructure including public works, public health, construction, utilities, airports, ports, public transportation, solid waste collection.

In compliance with these Orders, and to protect the public and reduce the spread of COVID-19, the City continues to review and amend the operational changes originally put in place on March 17, 2020 following careful deliberation by the City Council at a special meeting held on March 16, 2020. The operational changes are as follows:

**City Facilities:**

- All City facilities are closed and the City is adopting a remote work posture which will take effect as soon as practicable until April 19, 2020, or further notice. City operations which can be conducted online and by email will continue during this time period. Visit [www.cityofartesia.us](http://www.cityofartesia.us) for details and contact information.
- Playgrounds, game courts and fields at all City Parks are closed for public use.
- City parks will remain available for passive public use and their maintenance and upkeep will continue. No gatherings are permitted.
- City Staff will use this period of time to increase cleaning and sanitizing facilities to protect the public and staff.

**City Services:**

- All services requiring in-person visits or public counter assistance will be suspended or made available by phone, online or through email. Please visit the website at [www.cityofartesia.us](http://www.cityofartesia.us) for details on specific services.
- The Dial-A-Ride Transportation program will remain in operation for eligible residents.
- Regular waste hauling, street sweeping, sidewalk and road repairs, and graffiti removal services will continue as usual. While ticketing for street sweeping will be suspended until April 19, moving of cars as you are able is still encouraged so we can maintain clean streets.

**City Events and Recreation Programs:**

- All City events and facility uses are cancelled or postponed until further notice. The effected events include:
  - o Senior St. Patrick's day 3/17 - Cancelled
  - o Opening Day 3/21 - Postponed until further notice
  - o Cesar Chavez 3/30 - Cancelled
  - o Senior Easter Lunch 4/8 - Cancelled
  - o Extravaganza 4/11 - Cancelled
  - o Earth Day Park Beautification 4/18 - Postponed until further notice
  - o Bulky Item Clean up 5/2 - Postponed until further notice
  - o Senior Mother's Day Party 5/6 - Cancelled
  - o Prayer Breakfast 5/7 - Cancelled
  - o Gun Buy-Back event 5/9 - Postponed until further notice
  - o Graduating Senior Recognition Night 5/14 - Postponed until further notice
- All recreation classes are cancelled until April 19, or until further notice.
- All senior programs are cancelled until April 19, or until further notice.
  - o The senior congregate meal program has been modified to offer packed frozen meals which can be delivered to senior's homes or made available for pick up at the Cerritos Senior

- Center located at 12340 South Street in Cerritos. To sign up and make a reservation, please call Human Services Association at (562) 806-5400 ext. 218.
- All youth and adult sporting activities are suspended until further notice.
- The Homework Help Program for kids and teens will continue at AJ Padelford Park as long as it can be conducted in compliance with current Federal, State, and County issued safety protocols.

**City Meetings:**

- City Commission Meetings are canceled until the end of April, or until further notice.
- The City Council Meeting scheduled for April 13, 2020 will proceed as scheduled in a virtual capacity in compliance with current Federal, State, and County issued safety protocols.
- The City Council Meeting scheduled for May 11, 2020 is under evaluation pending additional information from the State and County Health Departments in coming weeks.

This notice will be updated as new information is available and guidance is issued from the Federal, State and County Agencies.

*Update #3*

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*Located in southeast Los Angeles County, Artesia is a diverse, vibrant city with nearly 18,000 residents and a dynamic business community. The City of Artesia, a leader in sustainability practices and winner of three Beacon Spotlight awards in 2018 and 2019, is focused on serving the community with sound governance, 21st century infrastructure, and a commitment to public safety. To request services or share a question, visit our [Service Request page](#). To stay updated on our projects and events, visit us at [CityofArtesia.us](http://CityofArtesia.us), like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram @OfficialCityofArtesia, and subscribe to our YouTube channel @CityofArtesia.*