



**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH**

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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**City Takes Additional Actions to Address Coronavirus Pandemic**

Manhattan Beach, CA (March 13, 2020) – As the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to evolve, the Manhattan Beach City Council took additional actions to protect the health and safety of the public. These actions included:

- Proclaiming [a local State of Emergency](#);
- Closing City Hall and other City facilities to the public beginning Monday, March 16, until April 30 inclusive (City employees will continue to provide services);
- Cancelling all Parks and Recreations classes, parks/court reservations, organized sports, programs and activities until the end of April (parks, fields and sports courts remain open during daylight hours for community use);
- Cancelling all Boards and Commission meetings, with the exception of the Planning Commission; and
- Directing staff to activate the Emergency Operations Center beginning tomorrow, March 14, 2020 at 8:00 AM.

“As the pandemic evolves, the City will continue to respond decisively and appropriately. The City’s actions today reflect the need to protect the public and continue to serve residents,” said Mayor Richard Montgomery.

Proclaiming a local State of Emergency facilitates mutual aid and the mobilization of local resources, enhances the ability to coordinate interagency response, accelerates procurement of vital supplies, and enables for future reimbursement by the state and federal governments. It is critical to successfully responding to COVID-19.

Given the California Department of Public Health’s (CADPH) advisement that gatherings should allow for social distancing of six feet per person, public attendance at the March 17, 2020, City Council meeting will be accommodated in the Police/Fire Conference Room (located at 420-15<sup>th</sup> Street). This will provide more social distancing space than that of the City Council Chambers, which will not be accessible to the public during the Council meeting. More information will follow in the coming days.

In addition, the City has established a dedicated phone number for at-risk older adults who may be displaced by the closure of the Joslyn Center and suspension of the Older Adults program. Contact the City for assistance at 310-802-5010.

As a reminder, in order to reduce the risk of spreading illness, it is recommended that each person:

- Stay home if sick or need to care for a sick family member.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing using a tissue or sleeve (not hands).
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces often.

If you have questions and would like to speak to someone, or need help finding medical care, call the Los Angeles County Information Line 2-1-1, available 24/7.

In previous actions, the [City announced](#) that it has closed the Joslyn Community Center, cancelled all Older Adult Programming, and cancelled or postponed special events until the end of April 2020. The City will reassess programming and events over the next few weeks and determine if normal operations can resume in May. Numerous other Southern California cities have taken similar actions, including Los Angeles, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, Pasadena and Malibu.

The City is closely monitoring updates about the coronavirus from a variety of sources and [previously announced two reported cases](#). Information regarding the coronavirus is changing frequently. For accurate and up to date information about COVID-19, please visit [DPH's website](#), [the City's website](#), [sign up for eNotifications](#) and [Nixle](#) public safety alerts, and follow the City on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Nextdoor](#), and [Instagram](#).

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