



A Special Message from Gridley Mayor Bruce Johnson regarding the Coronavirus

The Gridley community is understandably concerned about the spread of the Novel Coronavirus, and as Mayor, I want to share the actions that the City of Gridley is currently taking, or could take if circumstances change. While this can be frightening and it's a first-of-its-kind situation for our community, we must keep calm and take reasonable, disciplined steps to protect the public health.

I need to emphasize that this is a public health crisis, and the lead agency for our area is the Butte County Public Health Department. Butte County is our authoritative source for information, advisories, facilities, equipment, personnel, and funding. That said, the City of Gridley has been, or soon will be, collaborating with a range of partners including, but not limited to: the Gridley School District, Butte County, Orchard Hospital, Enloe Hospital, neighboring cities, local businesses, and non-profits.

Last week Butte County initiated their Emergency Operations Center which provides more County-wide focus and flexibility in how we as a region can respond to this changing crisis. It's anticipated that the County will soon adopt an emergency proclamation. This proclamation helps our regional Emergency Services personnel secure vital supplies, funding, and assistance. The State of California has already declared an emergency.

The City is also modifying some services to reduce in-person interactions. We don't take these actions lightly, and they must be weighed against the threat of this virus, along with economic and daily-life impacts. Our goal is to reduce social interactions and the opportunity for community transmission of the virus. The City has closed our Recreation Center and suspended our Senior Meals Program and the Preschool held at our Recreation Center. **Our Recreation staff are working closely with our dozen senior residents who participate in the program to ensure their nutritional needs are being met.**

While we will continue all routine City Hall services, starting next Monday, March 23rd, City Hall will be Closed. Our City employees will be working full-time normal hours. Typically, we see 20 customers a day at City Hall. All utility payments will be accepted through a drop box, online, through mail, and via phone. Building services will be through appointment only. We discourage people from attending public meetings, so for example please call, mail, drop-off, or email your comments to the City Council and Planning Commission rather than showing up in person. City facilities are being cleaned more often, and hand sanitizer and educational posters have been posted. We expect these closures to last through early May, at a minimum.

Your personal actions and behaviors matter. Please follow county, state, and federal advice about increased personal hygiene, reducing in-person contact, and limiting non-essential travel. If you host or are a member of a social gathering, please consider delaying or cancelling events.

Finally, let's remain calm and composed and let the professionals do their jobs. Support your neighbors where appropriate and safe, share information, and encourage best practices. This is certainly a challenging situation, and an abundance of caution is warranted. You can find the latest information about the Coronavirus at:

[CDPH COVID-19 webpage](#)

[CDC COVID-19 webpage](#)

[EPA's List of Disinfectants](#)

Please share this notice with your friends and family to help them stay safe and healthy.