

**COUNCIL MEETING**

05/04/2020

☒ Received Before Meeting

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# CITY RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS:

Keeping Palo Alto Safe and  
Informed

May 4, 2020

[www.cityofpaloalto.org/coronavirus](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/coronavirus)

# CORONAVIRUS PUBLIC SAFETY RESPONSE

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- Maintaining essential services and ensure the safety of our workforce
- Evolving plans based on various Coronavirus impact scenarios and County Shelter in Place Order restrictions
- Planning continues to support community recovery
- Tracking City's fiscal situation in light of this extended emergency period, Council budget deliberations scheduled for later tonight and throughout May
- Later on this evening, Council will consider a business financial support proposal

# SOME GOOD NEWS

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- Regional Water Quality Control Plant Innovations: Testing for COVID-19 in wastewater; turning ethanol into hand sanitizers.
- Temporary Shared Streets Initiative will begin this week
- Highway 101 bike/ped underpass opened temporarily
- Testing expansion underway locally
  - Stanford Health Care
  - Recent Mayors letter to the County

# SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER EXTENDED

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- Timeframe of new Order: May 4-May 31
- Same focus:
  - Requires the community to stay at or close to home
  - Strongly urge community to wear face coverings in general when outside
  - Face coverings are now required when visiting an essential business.
- A few new activities allowed, subject to protocols:
  - Construction
  - Real estate transactions
  - Some outdoor businesses and activities
- Some outdoor recreational facilities reopening with strict social distancing requirements

# SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER EXTENDED

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- Construction to resume; inspectors available by appointment only starting May 5
- City infrastructure projects confirmed to restart this week; Cal Ave Parking Garage and US Hwy 101 Pedestrian/Bike Bridge
- Reopening some Open Space Preserves to vehicular traffic using a phased approach
- Starting May 6, reopening tennis courts, pickleball courts, basketball courts, skate park and athletic fields
- Staff in discussions with golf course operator to consider reopening with modifications
- Allows gardening and landscaping services to continue

# BUSINESS SUPPORT EFFORTS

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- Business roundtable meetings ongoing
  - 3 facilitated roundtable discussions
  - 2 Councilmembers representing Council
  - 54 business leaders attended
    - Shared challenges and ways adapting
    - Input will inform short- and long-term planning

## Next Steps

- Follow-up participant discussion this week
- Status report for Council consideration



**Slow the spread of this virus  
Stay Home: this will save lives.**



**Stay connected: check on neighbors,  
volunteer**



**Be Kind: We are in this together**



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**PALO  
ALTO**