



City of Gonzales

P.O. BOX 647
PHONE: (831) 675-5000

147 FOURTH ST.
FAX: (831) 675-2644

GONZALES, CALIFORNIA 93926
www.gonzalesca.gov

City of Gonzales COVID-19 Update

March 18, 2020

Maria Orozco
Mayor

Dear Residents and Partners of Gonzales,

Scott Funk
Mayor Pro Tem

Liz Silva
Councilmember

Lorraine Worthy
Councilmember

Paul Miller
Councilmember

René L. Mendez
City Manager

On March 17, the Monterey County Health Department's Health Officer, Dr. Moreno, announced the County's first two cases of Coronavirus and issued a **Shelter-in-Place Order** effective midnight **March 18, 2020 through April 8, 2020**. This Order requires all Monterey County residents to stay home, unless they fall under an essential service provision. These include:

- City/County government services: Police/Sheriff stations, fire stations, hospitals/clinics and healthcare operations, jails, garbage/sanitation, transportation, utilities (water, power and gas) and most offices
- Gas stations
- Pharmacies
- Food: grocery stores, farmers markets, food banks, convenience stores, take-out and delivery restaurants
- Hardware stores/plumbers/electricians and those who provide services necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operations of residences
- Banks
- Community benefits organizations on a case-by-case basis
- Laundromats/laundry services
- Cemeteries

Visit the County Health Department's webpage for the full list of essential services as well as the FAQs and actual Order at

<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/health/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>. "Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a

misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code 120295, *et seq.*) See letter to the community below as well as answers to your most frequent questions."

Gonzales will continue to be a safe, clean, family-friendly community, diverse in heritage, and committed to working collaboratively to preserve and retain its small-town charm

The City is here to support you during this time, and we want you to know that we are working with our federal, state, and local partners on this everchanging situation. We're carefully reviewing the latest recommendations from the CDC and the County Health Department as we evaluate what changes need to be made but we want you to know that – **essential services will continue – public safety and public health are our top priority!**

Please note, that City Hall, Police, and Fire Department as well as Public Works Departments will all continue to operate to full capacity while maintaining the appropriate safeguards to protect everyone. To do that, we have enlisted the following:

- Staff is convening daily to coordinate resources and review response plans.
- All in-person meetings, to include public meetings are being reviewed and modified as necessary in order to protect the public and we are looking at ways to have remote public access (where possible).
- We are closing our city parks and public restrooms.
- We have placed handwashing stations throughout the community.
- Our public facilities are undergoing increasingly frequent cleaning and disinfection of commonly touched surfaces such as doors, handles, sinks, drinking fountains, counters, tables, self-service kiosks, and conference rooms. And we have taken stringent actions to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone that walks through our doors to access our services.

We thank you for your patience and understanding during this time and ask that you call us with questions and/or concerns at 831-675-5000. We want to assure you once again that your health and safety is our top priority and we ask you to exhibit the characteristics of the “Gonzales Way” and you continue to show others what makes the City of Gonzales so special.

Best regards,



René L. Mendez, City Manager