COVID-19 Update (March 24, 2020, 3:15 p.m.)

Source:
City of Santa Clara Communications/Emergency Operations Center

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This is a summary of the City of Santa Clara’s latest response efforts along with impacts to local events and City programs/services due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency.

Current Developments

- The City continues to urge residents to follow the State’s and County of Santa Clara’s “Stay-at-Home” order except for essential needs such as purchasing groceries and picking up prescriptions. Businesses, that are considered non-essential, are also to be closed.
  - The Santa Clara Police Department is responding to calls of reported violations and handling them by educating the public and/or business owner about the “Stay-at-Home” order.
  - Over the last week, Police have responded to approximately 30 calls about alleged violations of the shelter-in-place order, such as people who are not household members playing basketball in parks.
  - For more information, view the County’s Frequently Asked Questions about the order to stay at home to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect the most vulnerable community members.

- Emergency financial assistance is available to eligible households who have lost income due to coronavirus-related impacts and reside in Santa Clara County.
  - The Santa Clara County Homelessness Prevention System is providing this assistance to help low-income residents who have lost income and are unable to pay rent due to COVID-19.
• For more information including how to apply online and eligibility requirements, visit Sacred Heart Community Service online, sacredheartcs.org/covid19/, or call 408-780-9134.

• Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the City is implementing a hiring freeze for the time being.

• Many local hospitals remain in need of donations of funds and supplies for care providers.
  o Public donations, including personal protective equipment as N95 masks, can be made through the Valley Medical Center Foundation.
  o For more details about making a donation, contact the VMC Foundation online, https://vmcfoundation.org/.

City Programs and Services

Water & Sewer Utilities

• The City will not disconnect customers of water services due to billing payment issues during this health emergency.
• Planned construction that cannot be delayed as well as emergency repairs may result in water service interruptions.
• Water & Sewer Utilities has its business continuity plans in place to ensure that the City continues to maintain drinking water quality and wastewater services.

As of March 11, 2020, the City’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has partially activated to increase our ability to maintain situational awareness and coordinate public information for this rapidly evolving situation.

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