COVID-19 Update (March 30, 2020, 4 p.m.)

Source:
City of Santa Clara Communications/Emergency Operations Center

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Resources:
Website: SantaClaraCA.gov/CoronavirusUpdates
Follow us on Twitter: @SantaClaraCity

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**

- To help residents who may be experiencing income loss, the City’s electric utility, Silicon Valley Power, will provide a one-time $30 environmental credit on all residential electric bills.
  - No action is required by residents to receive the credit.
  - Resident will see a $30 credit on their utility bill within the next month or two.

- With the “Stay at Home” order still in effect, residents must remember to minimize any contacts with those outside their household group to slow down the spread of this highly contagious respiratory disease.
  - While going outdoors for exercise is allowed under the County of Santa Clara’s Public Health Order, many people are forgetting that social distancing is still required. As we’ve seen and heard, there have been closures of some parks and public spaces across the state due to some Californians’ inability to follow these rules.
  - When people are outside, remain with one’s household group while outdoors. Stay at least six feet away from others.
  - Also, avoid peak hours to ensure adequate distancing from others who are using parks and trails.
The Sacred Heart Community Service is taking a temporary break in accepting applications for financial assistance for low-income residents impacted by COVID-19.
  - Sacred Heart said the initiative has already reached the maximum capacity of households that it will be able to serve with the initial $11 million in contributions that were collected for this effort.
  - In the meantime, the public can still make donations to support this initiative through the COVID-19 Regional Response Fund. According to organizers, this fund is hosted by Silicon Valley Community Foundation and will work with trusted lead partner organizations in the 10-county Bay Area region.

Visit the City’s Coronavirus Updates website for free resources available to the public to help with reducing stress and managing mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Meetings

The City Council will hold its next meeting tomorrow, March 31, starting at 5:30 p.m.

  - With the heightened “Stay at Home” order by the State and the continued order by the County, the Mayor will be present for the meeting with Councilmembers and department heads participating online. A limited number of staff will also be present. The meeting set-up is in line with the recommendations of the COVID-19 White House Task Force, which notes no more than 10 people gatherings.
  - The City Cafeteria has been set up to accommodate up to 10 people at a time and public comment will be given from that location.
  - However, we encourage residents to stay at home and provide public comment:
    - Via the City’s eComment section (available before meeting begins)
    - Via email to PublicComment@santaclaraca.gov
  - As usual, the public can view the meetings on SantaClaraCA.gov, Santa Clara City Television (Comcast cable channel 15 or AT&T U-verse channel 99), or the livestream on the City’s YouTube channel or Facebook page.

City Programs and Services

Santa Clara City Library
While Santa Clara City Library locations remain closed, patrons who have borrowed library materials DO NOT need to return materials for the time being. The loan periods have been extended so patrons can continue to hold on to these items without incurring late fees during the COVID-19 emergency.

- The Library continues to offer many digital services that the public can access from wherever they are. For more details, visit sclibrary.org.
- Virtual library cards are also available. Sign up online to get access to eBooks and other online resources.
- Also, staff is providing library reference and resource help through the City Reference Line on Mondays through Fridays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Call 408-615-2900 or email librarians@santaclaraca.gov.

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