



TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: City Manager, Nathan E. Wallace

DATE: March 16, 2020

SUBJECT: City of Palmer Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update 2

With the announcement in Anchorage today on the mandate to close several businesses through March 31, 2020, I wanted to update additional closures in the City of Palmer and the effect the Anchorage order has on our city:

In addition to the following closures that started Monday (today) March 16, 2020:

- The City of Palmer Library** (book drop will remain accessible)
- The City of Palmer Public Restrooms** (located on E. Elmwood)
- All public events scheduled for the MTA Event Center** (Public Skate, Stick Time, Group Skating Lesson's, Adult Novice Shiny, Freestyle, and Gym).

The Community Center (Depot) and MTA Event Center will be closed to all activity beginning March 19, 2020. A liberal cancellation fee refund policy is in effect for this time to ease the burden due to the result in cancellations.

City administrative offices (City Hall, Public Works, Community Development, and the Airport) **will remain open** at this time, but customers will be asked to observe social distancing while visiting. This includes maintaining distances between city representatives and other customers. We encourage the use of email, phone, and the drop box when ever possible to lessen the amount of contact between people. This is especially important in the coming weeks as utility bills become due. The City does accept credit card payment online and by phone for those desiring to use those methods of payment.

The measures listed above **will remain in place until April 3, 2020.**

The businesses in the City of Palmer **are not** required to follow the mandate issued by the Municipality of Anchorage. We do encourage businesses to follow best practices for sanitation and to expand ways of social distancing within their facilities so that risk of community transmission in our community is minimized.

The City is constantly evaluating for the future and will announce other measures as they arise or become necessary.

Government services will continue to be provided by the City at the same level; however, there may be some inconveniences encountered when conducting business "face to face" during this time of uncertainty.

There is no need to panic at this time or in the future if we all prepare, mitigate exposure, and support each other from a safe distance. I can't emphasize this enough; this is what makes our community Palmer - "Alaska at its Best!"

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