

March 16, 2020

## **NEWS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The City's focus during the COVID-19 emergency has been on the continued operation of City functions. To this end, the City created a Continuity of Government Operations plan (COOP). This plan allows the City to make adjustments to work schedules and determine mission essential city operations that must continue during emergencies.

The COVID-19 virus situation is moving very quickly and will require resources and actions by all jurisdictions. To facilitate this rapidly changing situation, the Lincoln City Council adopted an emergency declaration on March 16, 2020 establishing a state of emergency for the city due to COVID-19. The declaration is effective through April 8, 2020 and can be extended without further order of the City Council.

The Lincoln City declaration provides emergency powers for the City to implement and expedite various measures necessary to ensure the Cities actions are sufficient to provide the citizens and visitors the required public safety and protection actions during this emergency.

Also on March 16, 2020, Governor Brown issued further directives concerning COVID-19. The governor's actions are effective March 17, 2020 lasting four (4) weeks until April 17, 2020. These directives include the following:

1. All restaurants will be closed and restricted to serving takeout and delivery food only. Exemptions to this ban include grocery stores, pharmacies, retail stores and workplaces.
2. Gatherings of 25 or more individuals are prohibited.
3. Governor Brown at the same time urged Oregonians to avoid being around 10 people at a time and suggested businesses that cannot serve customers in a way that minimizes interpersonal contact should shut down completely during the pandemic.

In response to both emergency and Governor Brown's directives, the City of Lincoln City has taken the following actions:

1. The Lincoln City Culinary Center will close from March 17, 2020 through April 17, 2020.
2. The City will hold municipal court on March 17, 2020 and strict social distancing will be enforced. The court will then be closed until April 17, 2020.
3. The City Planning Commission meetings will be cancelled until April 17, 2020.
4. The Driftwood public library will close March 17, 2020 through April 17, 2020. The library will be developing alternative service delivery options and will provide this information on web and social media sites.



5. The Lincoln City Community Center will close March 17, 2020 through April 17, 2020. The community center will be developing alternative delivery options and will provide this information on the website and social media sites.
6. City Hall for Lincoln City at this point will remain open. We are asking citizens that need to conduct business with the Finance, Planning and Public Works department to call first at (541) 996-2151 to determine if business transactions can be done by phone or email. We encourage you to conduct all business with the City remotely if possible. We'll post alternative service delivery options for conducting business tomorrow.

