



# *Letter from the Mayor*



## **Letter from Mayor Eisen: *City of Half Moon Bay Declares Local State of Emergency***

Half Moon Bay Community,

With a shelter in place order now in effect across most Bay Area counties, the City of Half Moon Bay proclaimed a local emergency as officials mobilize resources to support the community. The City is working closely with the County of San Mateo to support residents and businesses as everyone adapts to the County Health Officer's order, which limits activities to only the most essential needs.

On Tuesday, March 17, 2020, the City Council unanimously passed a resolution proclaiming a local emergency. The designation gives the City flexibility to leverage resources and help ensure critical services continue. Additionally, it allows the City to request mutual aid from regional, state, and other governmental entities. The City of San Mateo activated a multi-agency Emergency Operations Center along with Belmont, Foster City, and the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department.

San Mateo County Health Officer Dr. Scott Morrow confirms there is now evidence of widespread community transmission of COVID-19 in San Mateo County. On Monday, March 16, the Health Officer joined five other counties in issuing a Shelter in Place Order effective through April 7. The legal order limits activity, travel and business functions to only the most essential needs.

The order defines essential activities as necessary for the health and safety for individuals and their families. Essential businesses allowed to operate during the recommended action include health care operations; businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals; fresh and nonperishable food retailers (including convenience stores); pharmacies; child care facilities; gas stations; banks; laundry businesses and services necessary for maintaining the safety, sanitation and essential operation of a residence. In addition, health care, law and safety, and essential government functions will continue under the recommended action. For the full list, please see section 10 of the order or read the County's press release.

The following restrictions are in place:

- Shelter in place at home, leaving only for essential work, medical care (preferably access medical care through phone or online services), groceries and pharmacy

- All unauthorized visitors and non-essential personnel are barred from visiting licensed skilled nursing facilities
- Effective Monday, March 16, all schools are required to dismiss students from regular attendance. Visit [the San Mateo County Office of Education website](#) for public school information.
- Effective March 15, public gatherings of 50 or more people are prohibited and gatherings of fewer than 50 are allowed only if hosts or sponsors implement all of the COVID-19 risk mitigation measures required by San Mateo County Health.

In light of these new developments during this fluid situation, the City has several updates to provide to the community. The public should be prepared for further changes, included extending the period of time for closures, as more information becomes available from the Public Health Official and as directed by state and federal leadership.

### **WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE CITY OF HALF MOON BAY**

The City has implemented many service changes including City facility access and the cancellation of events and programs. City facilities will be closed to the public, from March 16 through April 7, for the health and safety of our staff and patrons. This includes the closure of City Hall, the City Hall Annex, and the Ted Adcock Community Center. The City will continue to provide essential services, such as public safety (through contract with the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office) and critical infrastructure maintenance. A full list of impacted City programs and events (along with other resources) is available at [www.hmbcity.com/covid19](http://www.hmbcity.com/covid19).

Our community's health and well-being are our top priorities, and we will continue to provide updates as they become available. Visit [www.cityofsanmateo.org/coronavirus](http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/coronavirus) for updates on City-specific services.

#### **Public Meetings:**

City Council and Planning Commission meetings are still scheduled to take place. All other commission and committee meetings have been cancelled through May 1.

Please note, under Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20 and under the declared State of Emergency, the City will be conducting all future City Council and Planning Commission meetings via teleconference/video conference.

Information regarding public participation and comments will be available on the agendas for each specific meeting.

#### **Recreation and Community Services:**

Recreation has cancelled all classes & programs through May 1, 2020, and no new facility reservations will be taken at this time, until further notice. Although parks spaces remain open to the public, it should be noted that restrooms are closed. We encourage park users to exercise social distancing and preventative practices when possible.

#### **Library Services:**

The San Mateo County Library has announced all public library locations, including the Half Moon Bay Library, will be closed effective Monday, March 16 to Tuesday, March 31. Most outreach and mobile services will also be suspended during this time. For more information, please visit [www.smcl.org](http://www.smcl.org).

#### **Schools:**

Residents should check directly with the Cabrillo Unified School District for the latest information regarding schools. Cabrillo Unified School District has announced the transition of their schools and students to distance/online and at-home learning. For more information visit <https://www.cabrillo.k12.ca.us/home>.

**Businesses:**

We are working with the Half Moon Bay Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau who continue to gather and update resources and ideas for local businesses. If you know of something that could be useful to businesses, or have a great idea, please email Kevin at <https://development@hmbcoastsidechamber.com>. Businesses that are open during the Order can be found on the Chamber's website at <https://www.visithalfmoonbay.org/biz>. Resources for local businesses can be found at <https://www.visithalfmoonbay.org/biz/business-resources-during-covid-19>.

For more guidance and to read Dr. Morrow's updated statement in its entirety, go to [www.smchealth.org/coronavirus](http://www.smchealth.org/coronavirus). You can also sign up for updates from the County of San Mateo's Emergency Operations Center by visiting [cmo.smcgov.org/eoc](http://cmo.smcgov.org/eoc).

Thank you to everyone who has been doing their part to keep our community safe. We will continue to work through this together. Any comments or concerns, please [email me](#).

Together in Partnership,

Adam Eisen  
Mayor  
[COVID-19 Daily Updates](#)



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Company Name | [Website](#)

