



For Immediate Release:

City of Belgrade Activities, Schedules and Protocols to Slow the Spread of COVID-19

Beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020 the City of Belgrade will be taking the following steps in order to minimize the spread of COVID 19. We are taking these steps for the following reasons:

- To protect the overall health of our community.
- To protect the health of our employees, many of whom provide essential services such as law enforcement, fire protection and emergency medical service; as well as clean water, sanitary sewer, and street maintenance.
- To help slow the spread and flatten the infection curve so our healthcare services do not become overwhelmed.

All events scheduled in City facilities are cancelled. The following City Offices will be **closed to the public** beginning March 17, 2020 for a period of 6 weeks.

- City Hall – Administration Offices (91 E. Central Avenue) 406-388-3760
City Manager, City Clerk, Human Resources and Finance Department
- Public Works, Planning and Building Department 406-388-3783
- City Court 406-388-3774
- The Belgrade Library (106 N. Broadway) will be announcing its own closure schedule 406-388-4346
- City Attorney's Office (11 W. Main Street) 406-388-3660

Utility and/or Court payments will continue to be accepted and processed promptly from the drop box location or via phone and online. All credit card processing fees for Utility payments will be waived during this time.

Any city staff may be contacted by utilizing normal phone numbers listed on our website by department or via email. In person meetings will be replaced with conference calls, Skype, and other technological means.

Please note that all city services remain fully staffed and operational during this time. These measures are being enacted to protect the health of staff and ensure the continuity of essential services through the COVID19 pandemic.

We are asking that everyone continue to do their part: hand washing, social distancing, and covering your mouth with your elbow whenever you cough and/or sneeze is essential to stopping or slowing the spread. At this time, it is also recommended by the CDC that we all avoid crowds or gatherings with more than 50 people. Please continue to be vigilant in your precautions and diligent in looking after those that are at higher risk. There is no need to panic or hoard supplies such as toilet paper, Kleenex, cleaning supplies, or bleach. We will get through this together with patience and compassion for everyone.

Please continue to utilize reliable sources of information such as the CDC, your state, county and local governments to stay informed of changes.

- Ted Barkley, City Manager