



CITY OF NEWARK

37101 Newark Blvd., Newark, CA 94560

EXISTENCE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY - UPDATE

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

(Updated March 27, 2020)

The COVID-19 situation is a rapidly evolving health crisis that has necessitated emergency measures to address the safety of our community. In an effort to attend to the health and safety of our community and to help slow the spread of COVID-19, the City proclaimed the existence of a local emergency. Today's update highlights the City's efforts in addressing this public health crisis.

City staff continues to attend briefings hosted by County and Federal governments as well as coordinating with the Alameda County Public Health Department and other governmental agencies. Staff is constantly evaluating the situation and taking action as swiftly and decisively as needed. Please continue to monitor the City's website at www.newark.org for further updates.

The City's efforts to address this public health crisis include the following:

CLOSURE OF NON-ESSENTIAL CITY FACILITIES

The following City facilities continue to remain temporarily closed and will tentatively re-open on Monday, April 6, 2020. However, this situation is fluid and any re-opening dates are subject to change. Please regularly check the City's website for updates.

- Clark W. Redeker Newark Senior Center – 7401 Enterprise Drive
- George M. Silliman Community Activity Center – 6800 Mowry Avenue
- Newark Community Center – 35501 Cedar Boulevard
- Newark Library – 6300 Civic Terrace Avenue
- These closures include Child Care and Pre-School
- City park playground, restrooms, and sport courts – parks affected:
 - Birch Grove Park
 - Byington Park
 - Civic Center Park
 - Community Park
 - Jerry Raber Ash Street Park
 - Mayhews Landing Park
 - Mel Nunes Sportsfield Park – Turf fields and Skate Park
 - Mirabeau Park
 - Musick Park
 - NewBark Dog Park
 - Susan Johnson Bridgepointe Park

We apologize for the inconvenience these closures may cause.

CITY HALL IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Newark City Hall is **TEMPORARILY CLOSED**.

City staff continues to provide limited functions relating to the city council, planning commission, city manager's office, building inspection, community development, engineering, planning, business licensing, finance payments, and non-emergency police responses (emergency police response continues uninterrupted). City staff has drafted policies and procedures to limit person-to-person contact so as to minimize the spread of COVID-19 while managing to provide these services. These procedures include:

FINANCE

As safety precautions, the Finance Department's front counter is closed to the public and will not be available for transactions. Finance staff will be in the office to process payments and department transactions. The Finance Department is also taking calls from the public on their main department number at (510) 578-4310 including emails via finance@newark.org and accepting payments via credit card or invoicing.

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

The City Manager's Office is working with limited staff coverage and employees have been assigned to alternate work schedules. Although the office is closed to the public, anyone with general city questions, garbage, or questions regarding COVID-19 can call the City Manager's Office at (510) 578-4200 or by email at city.manager@newark.org.

BUILDING, PUBLIC WORKS, AND CODE ENFORCEMENT INSPECTIONS

The Building Inspection Division will attempt to provide as many ongoing plan review and inspection services as reasonably possible. This includes:

- Remote inspections of current residential construction using photos, video, and/or real-time video conferencing, when possible. Priority shall be given to affordable housing and housing for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Remote inspections of current commercial construction using photos, video, and/or real-time video conferencing, when possible.
- Plan reviews of previously submitted projects currently underway.
- Acceptance of new and revised project plans via electronic submittal.

Please Note: The Building Inspection Division cannot guarantee that all inspections can be completed remotely. On-site inspection services will not be completed except for critical life/safety issues as determined by the Chief Building Official. Remote inspections will be provided, to the extent possible, for current projects. No new construction involving demolition should be undertaken.

FOR INSPECTION SERVICES: Submit your request via email to Blrequests@newark.org or call the Building Inspection Division main line at (510) 578-4261. A staff member will contact you as soon as possible. Please be sure to provide the following information:

- Permit number
- Site address
- Type of inspection
- Date being requested
- Contact name and phone number

FOR PLAN REVIEW INQUIREIS: Submit your inquiry via email to building.inspection@newark.org or call the Building Inspection Division main line at (510) 578-4261. A staff member will contact you as soon as possible.

FOR PLAN/PERMIT SUBMITTALS: Submit your package to building.inspection@newark.org . For large project files (over 10 MB), please utilize a file sharing service (i.e. Box, Dropbox, etc.). If you need assistance, please email roya.gonzalez@newark.org.

FOR ALL PAYMENTS: Staff will generate an invoice for all required payments. Payments via credit card are preferred can be completed by providing the required credit information with your electronic submittal. Payments via check will need to be mailed to:

Building Inspection Division
37101 Newark Boulevard
Newark, CA 94560

For all inquiries and submittals, please be sure to include appropriate reference information (project name, permit.project number, site address, type of inspection need etc.) and all contact information (name, phone number, email, etc.).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Community Development Department will attempt to provide as many services as reasonably possible. This includes:

- Review of previously submitted requests for discretionary entitlements, such as use permits, sign permits, and design review
- Community Preservation (Code Enforcement) inspections, particularly with regard to the Alameda County Health Departments' order to shelter-in-place
- Economic Development activities, with priority to business support and retention related to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Support for commercial and residential tenants in rental properties affected by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Remote inspections of current residential and (when possible) commercial construction using photos, video, and/or real-time video conferencing, if available. Priority shall be given to affordable housing and housing for individuals experiencing homelessness
- Plan reviews of previously submitted projects currently underway
- Acceptance of revised project plans via electronic submittal.

Please Note: Community Development cannot guarantee that all services can be completed remotely. On-site inspection services will not be completed except for critical life/safety issues as determined by the Chief Building Official. Remote inspections will be provided, to the extent possible, for current projects and no new construction involving demolition should be undertaken.

FOR DISCRETIONARY ENTITLEMENT PROJECTS: Please contact your project planner who was previously assigned to your project, or call the Community Development main line at (510) 578-4330, or email planning@newark.org. For questions or inquiries about new projects that have not been submitted to the City, please contact staff as described above. A staff member will contact you as soon as possible.

FOR PLAN REVIEW INQUIRIES: Submit your inquiry via email to planning@newark.org or call the Community Development main line at (510) 578-4330. A staff member will contact you as soon as possible.

FOR COMMUNITY PRESERVATION (CODE ENFORCEMENT): For complaints or concerns related to businesses who may be operating in violation of the Alameda County Health Order, please call the Community Development main line at (510) 578-4330, or email planning@newark.org. For all other inquiries, please refer to the Community Preservation information on the City's website.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT is prioritizing short term Interventions to support businesses, and critical steps for economic recovery, including restoration of jobs, incomes and taxes generated by robust economic activity. Businesses are encouraged to contact Anne Stedler, Economic Development Manager, at (510) 578-4273 or email anne.stedler@newark.org. Business resources to address the COVID-19 pandemic can be found on the City's website.

FOR ALL PAYMENTS: Staff will generate an invoice for all required payments. Payments via credit card are preferred and can be completed by providing the required credit information with your electronic submittal. Payments via check will need to be mailed to: City of Newark Community Development Department 37101 Newark Boulevard Newark, CA 94560. For all inquiries and submittals, please be sure to include appropriate reference information (project name, permit/project name, permit/project number, site address, etc.) and all contact information (name, phone number, email, etc.).

[POLICE RESPONSE](#)

Police protection will continue uninterrupted. Anyone experiencing an emergency should dial **911**. For non-emergency police issues please call 510-578-4237.

Our Police Department will continue to receive calls for service and will be prepared to address any needs for police service. Callers are asked that when they contact our dispatch center, please be prepared to answer questions related to any potential COVID-19 exposure.

- Have you or anyone in your household come in contact with someone who tested positive for the Coronavirus in the last thirty days?
- Have you had a fever or cough in the last three days?
- Have you traveled out of the country within the last thirty days?

These questions are being asked in order to provide for a safe response for our Police Officers and to prevent further spread of COVID-19.

Additionally, the Newark Police Department will utilize telephone reporting for documenting some property crimes and informational reports that do not require direct Police contact.

You should also be aware that Police Officers contact hundreds of people on a daily basis. All patrol vehicles are equipped with nitrile gloves, protective masks, and eye protection. Police Officers are allowed to use these materials in their discretion.

Police will also ask to refrain from calling dispatch to report potential COVID-19 county order violations. This will allow dispatchers the ability to focus on emergency calls. Instead, if you believe there is a county order violation, email Code Enforcement at planning@newark.org.

Records Division functions is by appointment only by emailing policerecords@newark.org.

Another thing you'll see is our officers wearing masks and gloves while on call. Please do not assume that the officer has COVID-19 or that someone who has been exposed is involved on that call.

Our officers come into contact with a multitude of people daily. So we're taking precautions to limit exposure and transmission.

Newark PD also adjusted their deployment models to reduce potential for cross exposures between police teams and taking cold property crimes over the phone.

Please be rest assured that officers are still responding to in-progress crimes.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Alameda County Fire Department is continuing with a normal emergency response configuration. This includes responding to all fires, vehicle accidents, fire alarm activations, hazardous materials incidents, rescues and medical emergencies.

The Firefighter/Paramedic on each fire engine and truck has been given the authority by the County Emergency Medical Services Agency to deny ambulance transport to those with minor to moderate cold and influenza-like signs and symptoms who can continue to manage at home and those with low acuity medical complaints during this epidemic. This is done to limit an individual's unnecessary exposure to COVID-19 in the hospital setting and to keep emergency department beds available for patients with immediate medical emergencies.

ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEALTH ORDER

On Monday, March 16, 2020, the Alameda County Health Officer issued an order directing all individuals to shelter at home through April 7, 2020. A copy of the order is posted on the

Alameda County Health Department's website, which can be accessed through the City's website.

The order allows for essential businesses to continue to operate, provided they comply with certain practices including social distancing of at least 6 feet. Essential businesses include, but are not limited to, those that are necessary for the health and safety for individuals and their families. This includes 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 non-perishable 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.

If you believe a business is operating that is non-essential and is in violation of the order, please submit an e-mail to planning@newark.org and our Code Enforcement Division will investigate.

CANCELLATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS

The following event has been CANCELLED:

- **Family Day at the Park** (scheduled for April 4).

CITY COUNCIL, PLANNING COMMISSION, AND SENIOR ADVISORY MEETINGS

Planning Commission and Senior Advisory Meetings are **CANCELLED** until further notice.

The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting is April 9, 2020. More information relating to this meeting will be posted at some point in the future.

Special City Council meetings may be called in the meantime in order to take any action necessary to address this public health crisis. Staff will give as much as notice as possible for Council meetings; however, please note that State law requires only 24 hours' notice for special meetings. Please continue to monitor this website for updated information.

MEAL PROGRAMS

The following meal programs are available to the public:

Viola Blythe Center 37365 Ash Street, Newark (510) 794-3437

Viola Blythe currently operates a food distribution program that provides up to two weeks of canned and dry foods as well as bread products. Boxes of food are assembled by volunteers and placed outside for pick-up.

The boxes can be picked up on Monday and Wednesday between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and Tuesday between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

LOV Newark **8440 Central Blvd., Suite A/B** **(510) 793-5689**

LOV Newark maintains an emergency food pantry. Members can arrange for either pick-up or have delivered bags of groceries.

Salvation Army **36601 Newark Blvd., Newark** **(510) 793-6319**

Salvation Army has a food pantry in which community members can pick-up groceries every weekday from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Community members must provide proof of Tri-City residency.

Sikh Food Pantry www.tinyurl.com/sfp-alameda facebook.com/sikhpantry

Provides free meal delivery services for elderly and those in need within Alameda County.

Tri-City Volunteers **37350 Joseph Street, Fremont** **(510) 598-4065**

Tri-City Volunteers is a large food bank that provides an assortment of food to tri-city families, including fruits and veggies, grains, canned goods, meats, and dairy items. They serve over 1,000 families every week. They are open at various times throughout the work week.

Marketplace Pick Up Hours:

Mondays-Thursdays

9:30a-10:00a Registered Disabled Clients

10:00a-12:30p Morning General Clients

12:30-1:00p Closed to Replenish TCV Marketplace

St. Edward Church **5788 Thornton Ave., Newark** **(510) 797-0241**

St. Edward Church provides a Friends and Family meal program on the second and fourth Sunday of every month between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Due to the pandemic, prepacked lunch bags will be provided with no sit down dining.

SENIOR PROGRAMS

The following programs are in place relating to seniors:

Ride on Tri-City Paratransit **David Zehnder, City of Newark (510) 578-4405**

The Ride on Tri-City paratransit program remains fully operational. For more information or to schedule a ride, please contact Helpline at (510) 574-2053 or visit www.fremont.gov/366/ride-on-tri-city-transportation.

Life Elder Care

David Zehnder, City of Newark (510) 578-4405

Meals on Wheels delivers nutritious meals mid-day Monday through Friday and also provides frozen meals for the weekend. To request service, please contact Life Elder Care at (510) 894-0370 or visit www.LifeElderCare.com.

Newark Senior Center

David Zehnder, City of Newark (510) 578-4405

Although the City is unable to offer services directly to seniors at our senior center at this time, staff will be reaching out to regular customers via telephone and e-mail to perform well-checks.

PROTECTING YOURSELF AND OTHERS

All people are strongly advised to comply with the following precautions to prevent the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses:

- Wash hands with liquid soap and water and rub for **at least 20 seconds**;
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing;
- Refrain from touching your eyes, nose, and mouth;
- Stay home when you are sick;
- Get a flu shot to protect yourself and others from the flu, which has similar symptoms to COVID-19;
- Flu and other respiratory viruses are very common right now, and large group gatherings are places where viruses can spread. If you are not feeling well or are experiencing cold, flu, or other symptoms, stay home to avoid spreading germs;
- It is recommended to call your physician from home to determine if there is a need to be seen at a medical facility. Going directly to a medical facility with minor to moderate cold or flu-like symptoms may unnecessarily expose you and others;
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces; and
- Consult with your healthcare provider if you or your household members are at high risk for COVID-19 complications

People who are well and healthy do not need to use a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory illnesses. A facemask can be worn for those who are coughing or sneezing to protect others from getting sick. The use of facemasks is crucial, however, for health workers and other people who are taking care of someone infected with COVID-19 in close settings.

Healthy people should not be excluded from any activities based on their race or country of origin. There is no racial, ethnic, or cultural basis for the disease. The City of Newark does not tolerate discrimination of any individuals.

STAY INFORMED

While the uncertainty surrounding a new virus can cause stress and anxiety, it is important to rely on reputable sources for information. These sources include:

- World Health Organization
- Centers for Disease Control
- California Department of Public Health
- Alameda County Public Health Department.

Links to these agencies' websites – both for information generally related to COVID-19 as well as guidelines relating to social gathering – can be found on the City's website.

*** END OF NOTICE ***