



EXISTENCE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY – UPDATE **2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

(Updated May 4, 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 help slow the spread of COVID-19, the City proclaimed the existence of a local emergency. This 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 is taking action as swiftly and decisively as needed.

Please continue to monitor the City's website at www.newark.org for further updates. The section entitled "Declaration and Existence of Local Emergency" is constantly updated with new information, so please check for the latest information.

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 with the exception of the tennis courts at Birch Grove Park and Newark Community Park. Both locations are open for **SINGLES PLAY ONLY** during normal park hours (dawn to dusk).

- 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 playgrounds, restrooms, picnic tables, benches, basketball, and volleyball 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 remains **TEMPORARILY CLOSED**.

City staff continues to provide essential functions for the following departments: City Council, Planning Commission, City Manager's Office, Building Inspection, Community Development, Engineering, Planning, Business Licensing, Finance Payments, and non-emergency Police responses (911 emergency police response continues uninterrupted).

The City has enacted the following policies and procedures to limit person-to-person contact.

FINANCE

The Finance Department's front counter is closed to the public and will not be available for in person transactions. Finance staff will be in the office to process payments and transactions. The Finance Department is also taking calls from the public on their main department number at (510) 578-4310 and is receiving emails at finance@newark.org.

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Most staff in the City Manager's Office is working daily and during normal business hours in order to answer telephone calls and respond to email inquiries regarding any general City questions, garbage matters, or questions regarding COVID-19. Members of the public can call the City Manager's Office at (510) 578-4200 or (510) 578-4428, or by email at city.manager@newark.org.

BUILDING INSPECTION DIVISION, ENGINEERING DIVISION, PUBLIC WORKS

One of the primary changes provided under the latest Order of the Health Officer of Alameda County No. 20-10, dated April 29, 2020 and effective May 4, 2020 is that construction activity of all types is allowed pursuant to the Construction Safety Protocols listed in Appendix B of the Order. All developers and contractors need to systematically review the Order and the Construction Safety Protocols and adhere to all requirements provided therein. For larger residential construction projects over 10 residential units, commercial projects over 20,000 square feet of floor area, or Essential Infrastructure (Public Works) projects involving five or more workers at the jobsite at any one time, the required Site-Specific Health and Safety Plan must be completed before construction work can begin (see Appendix B-2 – Large Construction Safety Project Safety Protocol of the Order). For smaller projects that do not meet these thresholds, there are still significant requirements that must be addressed (see Appendix B-1 Small Construction Project Safety Protocol).

BUILDING INSPECTION DIVISION: Although Newark City Hall remains closed to the public, the Building Inspection Division will continue to provide ongoing plan review and inspection services as follows:

- Either on-site or remote inspections of current residential and commercial construction projects. Contractors at all construction sites shall strictly adhere to applicable construction project safety protocols at all times, including social distancing related to on-site inspections. Remote inspections will be completed when possible using photos, video, and/or real-time video conferencing
- Plan reviews of previously submitted projects currently underway
- Acceptance of new and revised project plans via electronic submittal
- Processing of payments and issuance of permits electronically

The Building Inspection Division's instructions for requesting inspection services and for project plan reviews are in the process of being updated. Please see the division's webpage at: <https://www.newark.org/departments/public-works/building-inspection-division>.

FOR INSPECTION SERVICES: Requests can continue to be submitted via email to birequests@newark.org or by telephone at 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
- Email contact

FOR PLAN REVIEW INQUIRIES: Submit inquiries 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 building.inspection@newark.org.

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:

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.).

ENGINEERING DIVISION:

While Newark City Hall remains closed to the public, the Engineering Division will continue to provide all regular ongoing services, including all project design work, project administration, development review activities, encroachment and transportation permit issuance, street light

and traffic signal maintenance, traffic engineering, public works inspection, stormwater program management, and other services.

For all **Engineering Division** services including **Public Works Inspections**, please contact the Engineering Division by email at public.works@newark.org or by telephone at (510) 578-4589 and a staff member will respond to you as soon as possible, or see the division webpage at:

<https://www.newark.org/departments/public-works/engineering-division>

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

- Review of 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 will be given to affordable housing and housing for individuals experiencing homelessness
- Plan reviews of submitted projects currently underway and 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. Existing programs continue to evolve and new programs are being added, so businesses are encouraged to review the website for the most up-to-date information.

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 and many will be doing so in order to limit exposure and transmission of the virus. Please do not assume that the officer has COVID-19 or that someone who has been exposed is involved on that call.

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, call the Community Development main line at (510) 578-4330.

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

Newark PD adjusted its deployment models to reduce potential for cross exposures between police teams. The Department has reduced the potential for exposure by allowing the community to report many property crimes over the phone. Please 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 pandemic. 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.

You may also notice that our uniforms have temporarily changed to machine washable clothing only. Our traditional blue wool uniforms are dry clean only and difficult to disinfect after exposure to those experiencing signs and symptoms of illness. This adjustment is to keep both our firefighters and the public as safe as possible from viral and bacterial contamination.

PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE DIVISION

The City's Service Center remains closed to the public at this time. However, most ongoing outdoor maintenance activities are allowed under the revised Order. For any Maintenance Division inquiries or concerns related to streets, parks, or City buildings, please contact the division by telephone at (510) 578-4806 or by email at maintenance@newark.org and a staff member will respond to you as soon as possible.

GARBAGE COLLECTION SERVICES

Republic Services will continue with residential collection services on regularly scheduled days with no anticipated interruptions. However, Republic Services is implementing some operational changes to ensure the safety of the community and its employees:

- Residential collection service may begin at 5:30 a.m. rather than 6:00 a.m. in some areas in order to have drivers stagger their route start times and thereby limit the number of employees gathering and deploying at any one time.
- The office at 42600 Boyce Road, Fremont remains closed to the public. Alternative options to conduct business (e.g., paying bills or obtaining overage bags) will include online services, telephone, and mail. Options are posted on the Republic Services Website at:

<https://www.republicservices.com/locations/california/newark>

Customers can also call (510) 657-3500 if you have any questions related to garbage collection.

ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEALTH ORDER

As of Wednesday, April 29, 2020, the Shelter in Place Order to reduce the spread of COVID-19 was extended until 11:59 PM, May 31, 2020. All individuals in the County are directed to continue sheltering at their place of residence except for essential needs and identified outdoor activities in compliance with the specified requirements.

The following activities may resume as long as physical distancing and industry-specific requirements are met:

- All construction projects that follow the Construction Project Safety Protocols
- All real estate transactions, with restrictions on open houses and limited tours
- Childcare, camps and educational/recreation programs that provide care for children of people who are allowed to work outside of their homes
- Outdoor businesses such as nurseries, landscaping, and agriculture that normally operated outdoors prior to the shelter in place orders
- Use of certain outdoor recreational facilities, such as skate parks and athletic fields (the skate park and turf fields at Newark's Mel Nunes Sportsfield Park will remain **closed** until further notice. Tennis courts will re-open to singles play only)
- Non-essential travel remains prohibited

The Order also requires that all businesses and recreation facilities that are allowed to operate to implement social distancing measures, the wearing of face coverings, and cleaning protocols.

Visit Alameda County Health Care Department's website at www.acphd.org to see the revised Shelter in Place Order issued April 29, 2020 with an effective date of May 4, 2020, as well as a summary of the order and FAQ's regarding the interpretation of the order.

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.

CITY COUNCIL, PLANNING COMMISSION, AND SENIOR ADVISORY MEETINGS

The Newark City Council will continue to meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month; however, please note that the start times for most meetings have been changed from 7:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please further note that City Council meetings will be held by virtual teleconference until further notice. The public is encouraged to participate and a number of measures have been implemented in order to solicit input from the public, including the ability to participate virtually as well as to submit comments to the City Clerk via email to be read at the meeting. Instructions for participating in City Council meetings are included in each City Council meeting agenda.

Please also note that all meetings will continue to be live streamed on the City's website and cablecast on Channel 26 on Comcast.

Planning Commission meetings will resume towards the end of May or early June and will likely follow a similar format as the City Council meetings.

Senior Advisory meetings are suspended until further notice.

MEAL PROGRAMS

The following meal programs are available to the public:

Alameda County Food Bank

1-800-870-FOOD (3663) or 1-510-635-3663

foodnow.net

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Callers will be connected to a source for groceries or a hot meal the same day they call, including assistance in multiple languages. Application assistance is also available through CalFresh, a nutrition program that helps feed families in need.

City of Newark in partnership with the Tri-City Food Bank

- Free Drive-Thru Grab and Go Grocery Bag Program
- First and third Thursday of each month
- 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. or until supplies run out
- Location: Clark W. Redeker Newark Senior Center, 7401 Enterprise Drive, Newark
- Questions: contact Nick Cuevas, Recreation Supervisor at (510) 578-4432

Compassion Network

39155 Liberty Street, Suite 840

Fremont, CA 94538

(510) 796-7378

www.compassionnetwork.org

Compassion Network offers essential food distribution for homeless and families in need.

- Essential Food Distribution – Homeless Mondays & Thursdays. 10 a.m. – 12 noon
- Essential Food Distribution – Families Mondays & Thursdays 1 p.m. – 3 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 <https://www.facebook.com/sikhpantry> Provides free meal delivery services for elderly and those in need within Alameda County.

Solid Rock Church

5970 Thornton Ave., Newark

(510) 358-1585 ask for Bridgett Stevenson

www.solidrockcommunityservices.org

- Every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon (participants can come early to pick up a number beginning at 8:30 a.m.)
- Grocery bag distribution program, non-perishable food items

- Must be a Tri-City resident (may ask for ID but not required)
- Up to 300 bags distributed each week

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.

Tri-City Volunteers (TCV) 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
 - 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Registered Disabled Clients
 - 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Morning General Clients
 - 12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Closed to Replenish TCV Marketplace

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.

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 <https://www.fremont.gov/366/Ride-On-Tri-City-Transportation-Services>

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 <https://lifeeldercare.org/>

Newark Senior Center Nick Cuevas, City of Newark (510) 578-4432

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
- Consult with your healthcare provider if you or your household members are at high risk for COVID-19 complications
- Wear a facemask while in public, which is required under the Shelter-in-Place order. For more information on this requirement (including how to make one), please visit the Alameda County Public Health Department's website at www.acphd.org

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 and other COVID-19 health-related matters - can be found on the [City's website](#).

*** END OF NOTICE ***