

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council  
FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager  
SUBJECT: Friday Update  
DATE: November 13, 2020

### **Governor's Press Conference COVID-19**

Today Governor Brown held a press conference and announced a two-week “freeze” to address the rising COVID-19 cases within Oregon in addition to a travel advisory jointly issued with Washington and California. The travel advisory requests travelers from outside Oregon self-quarantine for 14 days after arriving and that residents are encouraged stay local.

The freeze will:

- Limit social get-togethers, both indoors and outdoors to no more than six people – total and no more than two households.
- Limit faith based organizations to a maximum of 25 people indoor or 50 people outdoors.
- Limit restaurants and bars to take out service only.
- Close gyms and fitness facilities, museums, indoor entertainment activities, indoor pools and sports courts.
- Close outdoor recreational facilities, zoos, gardens, aquariums, outdoor entertainment activities and outdoor pools.
- Close outdoor and indoor event venues.
- Limit grocery stores and pharmacies to 75% capacity.
- Encourage increase use of work from home.
- Prohibit indoor visits at long-term care facilities.

**\* 2-Week Statewide Freeze**

From November 18 to December 2, Oregon will be in a statewide Two-Week Freeze to stop the rapid spread of COVID-19 across Oregon. These risk reduction measures are critical in limiting the spread of COVID-19, reducing risk in communities more vulnerable to serious illness and death, and helping conserve hospital capacity so that all Oregonians can continue to have access to quality care.

## TWO-WEEK FREEZE

Social Gatherings	Businesses	Must Close
Limited to no more than 6 people total, from no more than 2 households – indoor and outdoor	Work-from-home to the greatest extent possible and close offices to the public	Gyms and fitness organizations
Limited faith-based organizations to a maximum of 25 people indoors or 50 people outdoors	Restaurants and bars are delivery and take-out only	Indoor recreational facilities, museums, indoor entertainment activities, and indoor pools and sports courts
No Indoor visitation in long-term care facilities	Grocery stores and pharmacies are limited to 75% capacity and should encourage curbside pick up	Zoos, gardens, aquariums, outdoor entertainment activities, and outdoor pools
	Retail stores and malls (indoor and outdoor) are limited to 75% capacity and should encourage curbside pick up	Venues that host or facilitate indoor or outdoor events

The Two-Week Freeze does not apply to or change current health and safety protocols for...  
Personal services (such as barber shops, hair salons, and non-medical massage therapy), congregate homeless sheltering, outdoor recreation and sports, youth programs, childcare, K-12 schools, K-12 sports currently allowed, current Division 1 and professional athletics exemptions, and higher education — all of which can continue operating under previous guidance issued by the Oregon Health Authority.

The freeze will begin on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 and run through December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

As a result of the announcement of the statewide freeze the City of Cottage Grove will be implementing the following effective Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>:

- City buildings except Middlefield Pro Shop will be closed to all public access. The Pro Shop will have limited capacity. Call the Public Works and Development Department at (541)942-3340 to set appointments for Planning, Zoning and Building issues. Contact the Finance Department at (541)942-3346 for assistance with water or sewer service.
- The Library Computer access services will be closed. Curbside Library materials will continue to be available. Contact the Library to arrange curbside materials by phone: (541)942-3828 or email: [library@cottagegrove.org](mailto:library@cottagegrove.org). Visit the Library's webpage at: [www.cottagegrove.org/library](http://www.cottagegrove.org/library) to access the library card catalog.
- No public in-building attendance will be available for meetings. All guests will need to attend the meeting virtually. Visit the City's Webpage for meeting link information.
- Several City staff positions will be working from home to reduce risk of exposure.
- One City employee per City vehicle will be allowed.

Everyone is encouraged to continue to wear a face mask when around others, wash hands regularly, maintain physical distance, limit social gatherings and stay home if sick.

### **OR-OSHA Temporary COVID-19 Rules**

Last week OR-OSHA adopted the final temporary COVID-19 rules that will be effective November 16, 2020 until May 4, 2021. The rule includes a number of requirements that employers must complete during the next few weeks. City staff and legal counsel are reviewing the rule provisions and various deadlines for the various parts of the rules.

### **Youth Advisory Council Meeting**

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council will be meeting virtually on Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Veterans Day Ceremony**

The Cottage Grove Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3473 and American Legion Post 32 partnered to conduct a Veterans Day Ceremony on Wednesday. The video from the ceremony is posted on the City's YouTube Channel and can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/CBkqogBedxk>. Thank you to everyone that assisted with making the event possible. A special thank you to South Lane Community Broadcasting and Jesse Baber for streaming the ceremony on Channel 14.4.

### **City Wide Leaf Pickup**

Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, the City Utility Crew will start the first round of leaf pickup in the City. There are three scheduled leaf pickups, the week of November 16<sup>th</sup>, November 30<sup>th</sup> and December 14<sup>th</sup>. The leaf pickup is for leaves only. No grass clippings, shrub pruning, blackberry vines, branches or other debris. Leaves are to be placed on the street surface near the gutter on streets that have onsite parking. Please don't pile leaves on storm drain catch basins. Leaves should be spaced away from parked cars. The City uses a large leaf vacuum pulled by a truck that needs room to vacuum the leaves up.

If you live along a street that doesn't have onsite parking or a private street you can haul the leaves to a drop site located at 3300 Row River Road near the entrance to the Row River Water Treatment Plant. Please don't place leaves in designated bike lanes or on sidewalks. If you have any questions please contact the Public Works & Development Department at (541) 942-3349.

### Wastewater Surveillance of COVID-19

The City of Cottage Grove, along with 19 other Cities throughout Oregon, volunteered to participate in a pilot program testing wastewater for COVID-19. Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is working with Oregon State University to collect and test weekly samples of wastewater (sewage) for traces of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19. Samples are collected from small to medium-sized communities around the state. This information will help OHA better understand where COVID-19 is circulating in Oregon. Wastewater monitoring for SARS-CoV-2 is an emerging science and is currently most useful as an early warning system for COVID-19 in a community. Wastewater monitoring may detect COVID-19 in a community before clinical cases appear and may detect COVID-19 from cases without symptoms and those who do not seek testing. At this time, it is not possible to accurately detect the number of cases of COVID-19 in a community based on wastewater data.

OHA reported this week that the Cottage Grove along with 15 other cities had test results that detected the COVID-19 virus. OSU will be continuing testing weekly. They will be using the data to determine if testing wastewater does in fact give advanced warnings of outbreaks and how prominent it is in the City.

Current data shows that wastewater containing the virus **does not** cause infections. OHA and OSHA recommend following their current guidelines for personal protection from COVID-19 and no additional personal protection is recommended at this time.

### Weekly Update # 6 Southmayd Family

We completed the foundation pad on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> which was Veteran's Day, and what a day it was. We hauled about 12 loads of rock, had transfer dump trucks lined up at about the time a big vibratory roller to compact the rock showed up. Ric Christian of Geomax came out and tested the building pad for us. He will be preparing a test report so that we can remit it to the county. McKenzie Excavation came out on extremely short notice to bring the roller, and offered right there on the spot to install the septic tank and drain field that we learned is inadequate, not installed correctly, and is failing. A small portion was under the new garage, which had to be removed.

As we were calling around for rock on Wednesday, we tried Knife River, who did not have a source at the time, but did encourage us to call him when we need the concrete for the foundation, so that seems likely that we will be donated that. I also tentatively have Shad Lowman, owner of L and L Foundations on board to help with the concrete forms.

I am continuing on with donation requests and am preparing a letter to the American Red Cross who seems very excited to help us. I do not know if they can do anything, but we are hopeful. I have received word from Mike Lindell's executive assistant of "My Pillow". I had called the commercial and got through to a gal that graciously gave me Mike's personal email.

At this point our \$15,000 is going fast with permits, some of the rock, and now the dilapidated septic system. I have emails in to Willamette Greystone for a tank and HD Fowler for the drain pipe. We would like to get that in as soon as possible. Weather is a challenge at this point. Plans should be ready in a couple weeks.

*Quote of the Week:*

*"Welcome sweet November, the season of senses and my favorite month of all."*

*~Gregory F. Lenz~*