

March 17, 2020

Fifteen Days to Make a Difference

Maricopa, AZ (March 17, 2020) – The City of Maricopa is known as a caring, strong and resilient community. Putting others first is demonstrated on a daily basis. People care and so do your City workers who remain committed to serve. City leadership and its community partners remain engaged and work daily to maintain public health and safety while balancing real life needs. We stand at the ready to meet the evolving challenges resulting from Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). It is incumbent upon all of us to do our part.

We take our lead from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), [Arizona Department of Health Services \(ADHS\)](#), and the [Pinal County Department of Public Health Services](#) and will follow any directive provided with the understanding that there are different protocols for various locations based on local conditions.

Parks, Community Centers and Library:

We are taking proactive measures with regard to operating City facilities to help protect high-risk populations and reduce risk for spread of the virus. These measures are under constant review as new information becomes available. Thus, the City will be cancelling all programs, activities and events that do not allow social distancing. Copper Sky Multigenerational Center and City parks will remain open for general use and outdoor sports will continue as we encourage residents to stay active while practicing social distancing. We are also cancelling all programming pertaining to our senior population. The City of Maricopa Public Library will remain open; however, all events and programs with more than 10 participants are canceled. Small numbers are permitted to enter the library for book selection and other brief business. Certain library services may not be available. In some cases, home delivery may be an option. The City will be assertive in enforcing sanitary practices in use of its facilities including wiping down equipment and good hygiene and we encourage our residents to be vigilant as well in theirs (see: **Encouraging All to Do Their Part**).

Day Camps:

As a City, we are working hard to be a reliable partner for our families. We are monitoring the situation closely and will continue to operate day camps and other programming in support of working parents as long as we are able to provide a safe environment for our youth and participating adults. Camps will be modified to accommodate group settings no greater than 10 campers per area. Parents should be prepared to execute alternate plans if or when it is determined that such programs should be closed. Children who display symptoms are unable to attend the camps based on our standard camp policy. Again, we encourage all to do their part.

City Hall:

City Hall will remain open for business. Where and when possible, telecommuting meetings can and will be established. In the interim, certain board or volunteer committee meetings may be

canceled or postponed. All boards, committees and commissions meetings are canceled, with the exception of City Council and Planning and Zoning Commission meetings, schedule to be determined.

We ask that you try to conduct any business you have with the City via electronic format whenever possible versus coming in-person.

Police and Fire Response:

The Police and Fire Departments are maintaining a normal business schedule. All first responders are provided information from the health department as it relates to the virus. They also carry masks and gloves as a matter of practice. The Fire Department is working closely with the Pinal County Office of Emergency Management to monitor the situation and is following stringent infectious disease protocols, already in place. The ability to provide emergency services to the community has not been impacted, and the City does not anticipate any delay or interruption to services.

Local Health Centers and Schools:

The City is working collaboratively and closely with local schools and health centers as they continue to prepare, plan and modify protocols. Please contact them directly to stay informed.

Encouraging All to Do Their Part:

- a. Listen to and follow the directions of your state and local authorities. The City of Maricopa is subject to the direction of the State of Arizona and Pinal County. At present, we have no to limited authority over private events or other jurisdictions.
- b. If you feel sick, stay home. Do not go to work or mingle in public. Call your health provider.
- c. If your children are sick, keep them at home. Do not send them to school, ball practice or other activities or events where people gather.
- d. If you are an older person with a serious underlying health condition that can put you at increased risk, stay home and away from other people.
- e. Practice good hygiene.
- f. Limit gatherings to fewer than 10 people.

We will continue to monitor other programming and may issue other cancelations if we feel the health and safety of participants and/or staff are compromised or when so directed by local authorities. Please monitor the City of Maricopa website at www.maricopa-az.gov for updates and modifications to programming and events. The City, Elected Officials and Staff remain ready to serve and meet all essential services.

For the most up-to-date information on the outbreak and what you can do to reduce your risk, please visit the State of Arizona Department of Health Services at <https://www.azdhs.gov> or CDC at www.cdc.gov.