



COVID-19 Daily Update

from Mayor Armondo Pavone



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March 19, 2020 / Issue: 4

With information regarding COVID-19 continually being updated, I've decided to publish this newsletter daily to share what we know with the residents of Renton. In each edition our team will bring you the latest updates from around the city as well as information from state and federal officials and agencies.

Google Translation available on website. For additional translation services contact communications@rentonwa.gov

Kennydale Reservoir gets lid; COVID-19 aid request made

With most of our attention focused on the COVID-19 pandemic, it's possible to forget work continues on important projects around the city. One of those is the Kennydale Reservoir. Today a milestone was reached as the structure's 33-ton lid was placed on top and welded into place. When complete in late June, the 100-foot tall structure will hold 1.3 million gallons for use both for domestic consumption and fire protection.



Earlier today I sent a letter to our federal Senators and Congressional representatives thanking them for their swift bipartisan action with the disaster designation, allowing COVID-19 aid to be allocated to fight this unprecedented pandemic. The letter was similar to one sent to congressional leaders by the National League of Cities, of which Renton is a member.

Because of the impact COVID-19 has had on our community, I brought some specific items to the attention of our elected officials: Block Grants and Community Development Block Grants to help with housing, neighborhood investment and economic recovery; Social Services Block Grants to help our most vulnerable populations; Economic Adjustment Assistance program, which is already in place to help industries impacted by unforeseen circumstances; and AIP Assistance for Airports. We hope that major airports like SeaTac and other facilities such as Renton Municipal Airport could benefit from the infusion of capital into this program.

Update on city functions. **New/updated information is in red.**

City Hall

- City Hall is closed to the public until further notice. Most services available via telephone and [online](#).
- Individuals are allowed to attend in-custody court hearings at City Hall, but they will be asked health screening questions.
- CDC guidelines for screening employees has been implemented. Health screening questions will be asked.
- Increased frequency for disinfecting common spaces, counters and door handles in all facilities throughout our hours of operation.
- Created [COVID-19](#) page with links to information and prevention.
- Enacted a telework policy for eligible employees until further notice.
- [Prohibition on enforcement](#) of city noise restrictions on vehicles.
- **COVID-19 link added to Renton Responds app**
- **Our HR department is adapting to changes and we are making decisions to be responsive to COVID-19 and making sure we keep our employees safe and healthy as we continue to serve our customers.**

City Council

- **City Council will meet March 23 via teleconference. City Hall will be open for the meeting, however, residents are encouraged to participate by submitting comments in advance. Email cityclerk@rentonwa.gov or drop off written comments Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the police walk-up window, Renton City Hall, just south of the main entrance, c/o City Clerk.**
- Subcommittee meetings are cancelled.
- Meetings are live on Channel 21 in Renton and [streamed online](#).
- Submit comments to councilmembers via cityclerk@rentonwa.gov or to Renton City Hall, c/o City Clerk, 1055 S. Grady Way, Renton, WA 98057.

Donations/Social Services

- Puget Sound Blood Bank is short on supplies. Find a [donation event](#).
- [Social Service Resources](#)
- [211.org](#): access point for homeless shelters, food and other related resources.
- [HealthPoint](#) in Renton.
- [Local shelters](#) are available for women, men and families.
- Public Health's [Community Health Access Program](#) for those without a doctor. Call 1-800-756-5437 or CHAP@kingcounty.gov for a free consultation and connection to free or low-cost medical providers and low-cost health insurance.
- **Those wishing to volunteer can register with [United Way](#).**
- **King County Office of Emergency Management will come online Friday with a virtual donations management center**
- [Low-cost food resources](#) in Renton

Economic Development

- CED has compiled list of resources for [businesses and employers](#).
- [Small Business Administration](#) is offering disaster assistance loan to small businesses impacted by COVID-19.
- [King County Council](#) collected information on unemployment, workers' comp, rent/mortgage, utilities, student loans, food assistance, insurance & businesses.
- **[Fees and permitting](#) waived for A-frame business signs advertising curbside pick-up.**
- **Greater Seattle Partners is asking businesses to take an [economic impact survey](#).**

Facilities/Services

- The following facilities are closed at least through April 24: Renton Community Center, Renton Senior Activity Center, Highlands Community Center, North Highlands Community Center, Renton History Museum, Renton Pavilion Event Center and Carco Theatre.
- Lunch program continues at [Senior Activity Center](#). Seniors (50+) can drive through and pick up a sack lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Public Works, Parks and Facilities shops are closed to the public until further notice.

Healthcare

- Valley Medical Center has a [COVID-19 page](#) with updates.

Municipal Courts

- Continuing all [non-essential hearings](#) until a later date.
- [Hearing cases](#) on the jail calendar.
- Instructions posted at City Hall explaining access to in-custody court hearings.

Online Payments

- Business licenses, pet licenses, courts, tax and licensing and utility bills can all be paid [online](#).

Permitting

- [Permit counter](#) is closed to the public until further notice. Applicants can use [online options](#) for payments and tracking applications.

Public Works

- Maintenance facility is closed to the public until further notice.
- To request service or report a problem call 425-430-7400 weekdays between 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- After normal business hours, call Renton Police Department dispatch at 425-430-7500 (option #8) to request assistance from an on-call representative. If the problem is an emergency, please call 911.
- 20 MPH flashing school zone beacons disabled.
- Residents can also report via [Renton Responds](#).



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- To protect sanitation collection drivers, please bag all facial tissue and cleaning items (gloves, wipes, paper towel).
- The May 9 Spring Recycling Event is cancelled and will be rescheduled.

Recreation

Open:

- All [parks and trails](#). Follow recommended social distancing and proper hand washing.
- The [Maplewood Golf Course](#) and driving range.

Closed:

- All classes, event and activities at least through April 24.
- Registrations through April 26 will be cancelled.
- Refunds processing for March cancellations; April to follow.
- River Rock Grill until further notice.

Renton Police Department

- [Procedures updated](#) on March 13.
- Department lobby at city hall is closed. Exterior walk-up window is open.
- Only use 911 for emergencies; Non-emergencies: 425-235-2121.
- Public Health - Seattle & King County (206-477-3977) handles complaints of crowds of 50 or more.
- School zone cameras turned off.

Renton Regional Fire Authority

- [Procedures updated](#).

Renton Schools

- [Closed until](#) at least April 24.
- [Services are being offered](#).

Renton Municipal Airport

- Currently closed to the public until further notice.
- General information available on [website](#) or by calling 425-430-7471 (admin) or 206-423-3715 (maintenance).

Transportation

- [March 19](#) - Sound Transit to temporarily reduce service on Link light rail, Sounder trains, some ST Express routes
- [March 18](#) - Metro plans to temporarily reduce service starting Monday, March 23 to support the health of the community

King County

Statewide actions

- [March 18](#) - Governor waives one-week wait for unemployment benefits
- [March 17](#) - Governor signs bill package to support state effort combating the COVID-19 outbreak
- [March 16](#) - Governor issues statewide shutdown of restaurants, bars and limits on size of gatherings expanded.
- [March 13](#) - Governor expands school closure/gathering ban statewide.

Important Links

- [Public Health - Seattle & King County](#)
- [King County Emergency news](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Governor's Coronavirus resources](#)
- [Washington State Coronavirus Response: multi-language resources](#)