

For Immediate Release



Date: 3/17/2020
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City Closes Offices to Public but Services Still Available

[Kennewick, WA] – As the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 as high, and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur; effective immediately, all City offices are closed to the public through Tuesday, March 31st.

While public access is temporarily suspended, the City is still open for business! Staff is on site and able to provide most services to our residents and businesses. Business will be conducted primarily over the telephone and via e-mail. In limited situations, in-person appointments may be scheduled, but only if deemed necessary and strict adherence to social distancing requirements or other mandates can be met. City staff is committed to ensuring customers experience minimal impacts with this temporary suspension of public access to our business offices.

City Council has also cancelled all remaining City Council meetings through the end of May with the exception of the Council meeting scheduled for April 21st. Council will schedule special council meetings for essential operational items during this timeframe. In addition to City Council meetings, all meetings for City Boards and Commissions through the end of May are also cancelled unless necessary business items arise that cannot be delayed.

When Council meetings are scheduled, citizens are strongly encouraged to watch the meeting on-line and refrain from coming to City Hall. City Council meetings are broadcast live via our webpage at www.go2kennewick.com/1256/Council-Meeting-Broadcasts. Archived video for all Council meetings are posted on-line the next business day. Current agendas are available at www.go2kennewick.com/AgendaCenter/City-Council-Meetings-2

The City has a utility payment drop box located on the east side of City Hall. Utility payments can also be made on our automated telephone system by calling 585-4266; on-line at www.go2kennewick.com or through private bill payer services.

The primary contact lines for services are:

Police non-emergency:	585-4208
Fire non-emergency:	585-4230
All other City Services:	585-4200

The COVID-19 situation is evolving daily. The City continues to closely monitor the proclamations from the Governor's office and recommendations from the CDC, State Department of Health and the Benton-Franklin Health District.

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