



City of Oak Park Heights

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3-27-20

COVID-19 Update – City of Oak Park Heights –

RE: Public UPDATE #4 – March 27th, 2020

From: Eric Johnson, City Administrator

The City is continuing its CORE SERVICES and we remain largely operational; Here are some updates from the City:

1. The City's general phone line remains open from 8 am to 4:30 pm, Mon-Fri, however due to the call forwarding feature; we only have one incoming-line so you may – on occasion - receive a busy signal or it will roll to voice-mail. Please call back in a couple of minutes and we can address your needs. 651-439-4439.

2. The City Council has waived all CITY building permit fees related to improvements to existing homes through September 30th, 2020; if you had thought about some home projects now may be a time to tackle this project; We can issue the permits remotely and with no City Permit fee! Just give us a call and tell us what your project might be! The City Council has also waived late fees associated with utility bills for the upcoming quarters.

3. City Parks and Trails Remain Open. We encourage the community to continue to stay physically active and enjoy the days as they warm up. Yes, follow the “social distancing” protocols of course and if you use the playgrounds, practice effective hand cleaning and washing. Attached is a link to the City's website for trail maps. <https://www.cityofoakparkheights.com/index.asp?SEC=0C548C4B-286B-4D32-8609-BB98F5E2CC1A>. If you haven't walked the City's Trails, now is a great time to explore these wonderful assets!

4. The City's SPRING CLEAN-UP slated for May 2nd is going to be rescheduled; Staff hopes for a mid-June / July date –more information will be forthcoming.

5. Some Public Safety Notes:

There are several links to related to the COVID-19 and can be found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/situation.html>

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>

<https://www.co.washington.mn.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?CID=1>

The MDH has established a COVID-19 Hotline that will run from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm: 651-201-3920.

SEE THE ATTACHED PAGES – also -- With the Governor's “shelter in place” order traveling throughout the community should be limited to those purposes outlined. This will assist all local law enforcement to keep resources better directed to having eyes on closed buildings and/or dealing with acute emergencies. A copy of his order (MN-EO 20-20) is found in this link: <https://mn.gov/governor/news/executiveorders.jsp>

The City's CORE FUNCTIONS of public service delivery regardless of the situation shall be maintained:

1. Ensuring water is delivered to homes and hydrants,
2. That sanitary sewers and sanitary sewer lift stations remain operational,
3. Streets remain plowed, and
4. Police/EMS/FIRE services remain intact and functional.
5. We expect regular building Permit Issuances and Garbage and Recyclable pick-up to continue.

Should there be any changes related to the City's ability to deliver these CORE SERVICES we will post them on the City's Website which can be found at www.cityofoakparkheights.com and links will be placed on Facebook. One can always call City Hall at 651-439-4439 if you have any specific questions or need guidance on securing other aid. We will do our best to respond.



KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AND WATCH OUT FOR EACH OTHER

- If you see suspicious activity around your neighborhood or out in the community, don't hesitate to call 911 to report suspicious activity.
- WCSO non-emergency number: 651-439-9381
 - Oak Park Heights Police: 651-439-4723
- Remind friends and family to watch their mail. As refunds and stimulus checks are to be dispersed, some have it mailed. Mail thieves know this, and may be out checking mail boxes.
- Watch the package deliveries. Many people are still required to work and may not be home to accept their package. Keep the package thieves at bay as many are doing more online shopping during this time.

- Scammers are out there as well. Feeding into people's fear and concern of the COVID-19 virus. There is NO CURE for it at this time "Hopefully SOON!", especially from an online advertisement. Don't be victimized by scammers online or over the phone.
- As many businesses are being forced to close help them out by keeping an eye on them as you are out and about. If you see someone or something not right around a closed business call and let us check it out.
- The more we help each other and the more we do, the better it is for all, now and when this end so we can return strong.