

THE CORNING FRIDAY NOTES

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FROM: KRISTINA MILLER, CITY MANAGER
DATE: APRIL 17, 2020



CITY MANAGER:

FY 2020/21 Budget Preparation:

I will be meeting with Department Heads and other responsible employees regarding their budgets beginning on April 17th. As discussed with Management personnel, the impact COVID-19 will have on the City's finances will be significant. Many cities are delaying their budget processes due to there being so many unknowns at this time. I am concerned about whether Staff can develop an accurate budget. As the budget process evolves, I will provide updates to Council. There will be significant reductions and delay in Sales Tax, Transactions and Use Taxes, Transient Occupancy Tax, Streets and Roads Taxes, and to a lesser degree Property Taxes. Department Heads are being asked to reduce expenditures by 5%, excluding personnel costs. The City has been building its reserves for an economic downturn such as this.

At this point there is no Federal funding stream to assist local governments with populations less than 500,000. HR 6467 is proposed to provide low interest loans to local governments to help assist them with both the costs of response and revenue losses.

There are also efforts to reduce or eliminate cities' Maintenance of Effort Requirement to utilize SB 1 Streets and Road Funding sources.

Business Assistance:

I have been informed many of the CARES Act funding programs are close to, or fully expended at this time. CARES Act 4 is being worked on, which will hopefully provide additional support to those financially impacted. Attached are resources available to our local businesses. This information is posted on the City's website as well as on various social media pages.

I encourage businesses to continue attempting to apply for funding. Do not give up. Businesses should visit www.sba.gov or visit their local financial institution (banks). Financial institutions will be distributing the funds through a few different programs.

The Governor also issued an executive order to offer a 90-day extension for tax returns and tax payments (including sales tax) for all businesses filing a return for less than \$1 million in taxes. That means small businesses will have until the end of July to file their first-quarter returns. This should help businesses with cash flow issues. Businesses can also request a 12-month deferral of sales tax payments interest free from the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration.

Unemployment Assistance

The Employment Development Department (EDD) has increased its hours to 8 AM - 8 PM to process unemployment claims. Those who would not ordinarily qualify for unemployment will be able to file for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance beginning April 28th. The turn-around time to receive payments is reported to be 48 hours. The PUA is also retroactive. Please visit https://www.edd.ca.gov/about_edd/coronavirus-2019.htm for further information.

COVID-19:

The President's Coronavirus Task Force will be providing Guidance to Governor's on April 16th as to how and under what conditions to reopen different portions of the country.

COVID Act Now (https://covidactnow.org/us/ca/county/tehama_county) provides modeling of COVID-19 under different scenarios. It also depicts the dangers of ramping up to aggressively (laxing the order).

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I will be discussing among other items COVID related, the development of a Recovery Plan with the County Administrator, Red Bluff City Manager, and Tehama County Health Services Agency Executive Director on Friday April 16th.

Tehama County Public Health recommends you follow all guidance available from the [California Department of Public Health](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx) and to check the website regularly. Please be vigilant about protecting your safety and those of others.

Website: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>.

I signed an Executive Order authorizing the County Public Health Officer to issue public health orders related to COVID-19 within the city limits of Corning. The City of Red Bluff is issuing a similar order.

Recreation and Youth Enrichment Program:

On a positive note, the Recreation Program received approval to hold a few online recreation courses for free. I am very excited to be able to offer these courses. Recreation Coordinator/Planner Chrissy Meeds is developing the courses in coordination with the instructors. She will also be working with the schools to get the word out about these courses.

Increased Housing Density Zoning:

Planner I/Recreation Coordinator Chrissy Meeds, in coordination with Planning Consultant John Stoufer are developing a higher density residential zone that will allow lot sizes of 4,000 square feet. This new proposed zoning is a result of discussions with Developers stating the large lot sizes are prohibiting development in Corning. There will be a Public Hearing at the next Planning Commission meeting on April 21st.

Grant Deed Easement Agreement:

The City Attorney is completing the final touches of the Grant Deed Utility Easement Agreement that will allow Corning Crossroads to ascertain a water and sewer connection on the west side of Interstate 5.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Airport Security Fence Project:

On Wednesday, Staff along with Armstrong Consulting, hosted a virtual pre-bid meeting for the Airport Security Fence Project. Four interested contractors attended the meeting and we anticipate receiving multiple construction bids for this project.

Digital Message Board:

As discussed in Tuesdays Council meeting, Staff has continued working with local rental companies to try to locate a used digital message board. We have been unsuccessful, but we will continue to look. The next scheduled Richie Bros Auction is June 10th, but it is currently an online only sale, the same as the sale that occurred in March. We will continue to monitor the status of the sale and the available equipment.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Patrol:

In addition to responding to 120 calls for service, a total of 7 officer reports were taken and there were 11 officer-initiated incidents, including 0 traffic stops. Officers made 1 misdemeanor and 2 felony arrests. Officers issued 2 citations, of which; 1 was animal, and 1 was a misdemeanor during the period of April 9, 2020 through April 15, 2020.

Training:

Officers continue to participate in POST Portal Training and Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. Other POST on-line training continues for Patrol and Dispatch personnel.

Notice:

For the health and safety of our Citizens, Officers, Dispatchers and Staff our lobby will remain closed due to COVID 19. Please use the intercom system at the lobby door if you need our assistance.

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“You will be exactly as happy as you decide to be.”

Corning Volunteer Fire Department Call Volume:

The Corning Volunteer Fire Department responded to 13 calls for service last week, they consisted of: 12 medicals and 1 investigation.

Orland, Capay, and Artois, Volunteer Fire Departments Call Volume:

The combined total of dispatched incidents for these Departments were 13 last week. These consisted off: 4 medicals, 6 fires, 2 illegal burns, and 1 public service.

Training:

Training for the Corning Volunteer Fire Department was cancelled due to the social distancing order.

New Medical/Rescue Squad:

Corning's new Medical/Rescue Squad 7 will be in service soon.

While at home, take care of your properties and keep all weeds under control.