

THE CORNING FRIDAY NOTES

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FROM: KRISTINA MILLER, CITY MANAGER
DATE: MAY 29, 2020



CITY MANAGER:

COVID-19:

The County Variance Plan to reopen faster than the rest of the State was approved on Wednesday May 13th. You can find the Plan at:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Local-Variance-Attestations.aspx>.

Hair salons, barbershops, religious gatherings and protests are now allowed to reopen as long as they follow the State Guidance (please see link below) and have an approved Business Reopening Plan from Tehama County Public Health.

Hair Salon and Barbershop Guidance: <https://covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-hair-salons.pdf>

Religious Services: <https://covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-places-of-worship.pdf>

Businesses that have not already done so should submit their Reopening Plans (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TCCOVIDbizplans>) immediately.

Businesses still not approved to open include: nail salons, tattoo parlors, gyms and fitness studios, entertainment venues, indoor museums, zoos, libraries, community centers including public pools, playgrounds, and picnic areas, nightclubs, festivals, theme parks, hotels for leisure and tourism, and higher education.

Tomorrow, Governor Newsom is anticipated to release reopening guidance on schools based on news reports today. Other guidance that may be released tomorrow includes summer camps and child care facilities. I also anticipate some guidance regarding face coverings. He will be holding a press conference at noon. There is a perception that Public Health Officers receive advance notice of the guidance. This is not necessarily the case. Many times we are surprised by announcements.

The testing location will be moved back to the Community Center in Red Bluff on June 1st. Both asymptomatic and symptomatic people are encouraged to test. They want to test as many people as possible for asymptomatic community surveillance. You must have an appointment. You can schedule an appointment by visiting: <https://lhi.care/start>. As of May 26th we have tested over 1,525 individuals with 4 positive tests to date.

We still do not have the results from Stanford University of our infection rate from sewage received at our wastewater treatment plant. Testing conducted by Biobot from samples taken on May 7, 2020 before the City started reopening came back non-detect. We should receive weekly results for the remaining month of May here shortly. Testing of effluent may be halted due to the cost of testing increasing significantly beginning in June. Stanford University is also no longer collecting samples.

City Hall Reopening:

I am working to reopen City Hall to the public. The plexi-glass shipment was delayed. As soon as the installer receives the plexi glass, he will install the barrier at the front counter the next day. Staff are starting to return to working on site. The plexi-glass barrier will need to be installed prior to opening up to the public. Our Reopening Plan was approved by Tehama County Public Health on May 19th.

Corning Library:

The Corning Library asked that a barrier also be installed at their front counter. They are yet to be approved to reopen. At this time, they can allow curbside pick-up of books.

The Tehama County Library has a vast array of digital resources at their website www.tehamacountylibrary.org. If you do not yet have a library card, you can sign up simply by using a cell phone number. The County eBook collection can be accessed by visiting: <https://northnet.overdrive.com/account/ozone/sign-in?forward=%2Fnorthnet-tehamacounty%2Fcontent&showIcdSignUp=false>

The Summer Reading Program is planned to be digital. The Library will be posting YouTube videos 4 times per week starting next week for the duration of the summer. Kids can keep track of their reading online and will be entered to win a prize every two weeks <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxJQ9R2C5B1cklyBCaxVd8A>

Capital Improvement Plan:

The City Council approved the Capital Improvement Plan with a few modifications on May 26th. Three patrol vehicles will be purchased this year. The 4th vehicle proposed will be purchased in FY 2021/2022. Other items recommended by the Police Department were also approved including a susteen, replacement patrol rifles, 13 speed plates, and two drones. All other items were approved as proposed.

FY 2020/2021 Budget:

The FY 2020/2021 Budget is being finalized. As indicated by the revenue losses more detailed below, the City will significantly dip into its reserves to balance the budget this year.

Revenue Losses as a Result of the Pandemic:

Transient Occupancy Taxes (hotel taxes) are anticipated to drop from a high in FY 2018/19 of \$618,000 to \$325,000 in FY 2020/21 due to reductions in occupancy from the Pandemic and Camp Fire workers leaving the area. Planner I, Christina Meeds, made contact with local hotel management who reported at least a 50% decrease in business due to the Pandemic. Sales Tax receipts (excluding Measure A) is projected by Hinderliter, de Llamas and Associates (HdL) to be \$2,670,000 in FY 2020/21. This is down \$462,000 from sales tax received in FY 2018/19. The City anticipates receiving \$2,900,000 in FY 2019/2020, which is down \$200,000 from what was projected at mid-year. Transactions and Use Tax (Measure A) is projected by HdL to come in at \$1,045,000 in FY 2020/21. This is down from a high of \$1,168,000 in Measure A taxes received in FY 2018/19. HdL estimates are based on assumptions that government subsidies will be enough to carry most businesses through these challenging times and there will not be a second shelter-in-place order in the Fall. The City will receive its 2nd quarter sales tax receipts at the end of August. At that time we will have a more solid estimate of where the City stands fiscally. I will present a budget update in the September-October timeframe. The City is fortunate to have a significant amount of General Fund reserves to help carry the City through these challenging times.

COVID-19 Impacts Challenges and Opportunities Presentation:

I was selected along with the Sacramento City Manager and West Sacramento City Manager to virtually present to over 40 legislators and/or their staff regarding the challenges, impacts, and opportunities of COVID-19 Pandemic on May 29th.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Traffic Control/Road Closures:

Public Works Staff will be working with the Principals for both Woodson School and Maywood DaVinci to provide traffic control for Drive-Thru Promotion Ceremonies as follows:

- Woodson School on June 2, 2020 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Maywood DaVinci on June 3, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Please be cautious of additional traffic and potential delays adjacent to the schools on the days and times listed above.

Front Counter Protection:

Staff has authorized QRC Incorporated to make the plexiglass sneeze guards for the City Hall front counter. The Contractor is currently waiting on additional materials to make the guards, as soon as they arrive installation of the sneeze guards will take place.

Sewer Lateral Repairs/Replacement:

The concrete sewer lateral that serves Burger King backed up early this week, Staff has attempted to clean the line but it was unsuccessful as the line has collapsed. Staff will be replacing the line starting this week.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Patrol:

In addition to responding to 146 calls for service, a total of 16 officer reports were taken and there were 77 officer-initiated incidents, including 38 traffic stops. Officers made 2 misdemeanor and 2 felony arrests. Officers issued 8 citations, of which; 4 were misdemeanors, 3 were infractions, and 1 was parking during the period of May 20, 2020 through May 27, 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.

“Be fearless in the pursuit of what sets your soul on fire.”

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Corning Volunteer Fire Department Call Volume:

The Corning Volunteer Fire Department responded to 17 calls for service last week, they consisted of: 2 investigations, 12 medicals and 1 public service call.

The Orland, Artois, and Ord Bend Volunteer Fire Departments Call Volume:

The Orland, Artois, and Ord Bend Volunteer Fire Departments were dispatched to 11 calls for service last week, they consisted of; 7 medicals, 1 fire, and 3 traffic collisions.

Training:

Training for the Corning Volunteer Fire Department consisted of pump operations with Engines 12 and 14. Also donning an SCBA for entry into a building.

“Real equality - is equality of opportunity – not equality of outcomes”- unknown