

March 13, 2020

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR BOB HIGLEY
Update on the Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) and City Services

The City Council and staff wanted to update you on City services related to recent news regarding Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) reported in the Houston metropolitan area.

Our Emergency Management Command Staff has been monitoring the daily updates from the County and State Health Departments. West U is implementing measures recommended by the State and County health agencies to ensure the safety of our residents, visitors and employees.

City services for police, fire, emergency medical services, public works, solid waste, water and sewer are not affected. We will continue to provide the high level of service that residents know and expect.

Out of an abundance of caution, the City has implemented changes to those services where large groups would typically gather and services provided to senior citizens. Most notably, the City has cancelled programs, activities and events in Parks & Recreation and Senior Services. For an update on those cancellations, please visit the [City's website \(www.westutx.gov\)](http://www.westutx.gov) regularly.

Subject Matter Experts – Federal, State and County Health Agencies.

While the City is committed to serving our residents, please understand that the subject matter experts on this issue are from the federal, state and county health agencies. The majority of information from the City is from these agencies. I encourage you to follow them directly to ensure you are getting the facts and objective opinion from these sources.

- [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](https://www.cdc.gov)
- [Texas Department of State Health Services](https://www.dhs.gov)
- [Harris County Public Health](https://www.harriscountytx.gov)

While COVID-19 is an evolving situation. Many agencies, businesses and schools have implemented changes out of abundance of caution, life is still happening. Implementing measures into your daily life to help prevent the spread of the virus is strongly encouraged.

The CDC recommends washing your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer when washing isn't an option, avoiding large social gatherings and maintaining six feet of distance in social situations. **For a complete list, please visit the [CDC website.](https://www.cdc.gov)**

Additionally, those who are at a higher risk are older adults and people who have serious medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes and lung disease. If you are at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19 because of your age or because you have a serious long-term health problem, it is extremely important for you to take actions to reduce your risk of getting sick with the disease.

We can all do our part in responding to this emerging public health threat, but most of all please **remain calm, be prepared and stay informed.**

Thank you for doing your part,



Bob Higley
Mayor