

March 18, 2020 Update

What's New?

- City offices are open with the exception of childcare provided at the Recreation Pavilion. We *strongly discourage* the public to visit city facilities unless absolutely necessary – please use electronic or telephone options if possible. We also offer a drop box in the Interim City Hall parking lot for utility payments made by check (no cash please). The city also conducted some test meetings today using teleconferencing technology.
- The City of Mountlake Terrace is understanding of the severe impacts to residents and to local businesses and we are working on additional ways to help -- more information is forthcoming. Please check on friends and neighbors, especially the elderly, the vulnerable, and families with children to see how you can help if you are able to.

City employees are purchasing food from local businesses and we encourage you to support our local businesses if you are able. Consider ordering take-out or delivery from local eateries and explore online or phone options being offered by local businesses. (A community resource is putting together some information on local restaurants that should be available soon and we will share it on our website.) The U.S. Small Business Association is offering disaster loans for small businesses. Visit [this webpage](#) for more information.

A fund has also been set up by Snohomish County to help with the impacts of COVID-19 in the county. You can donate to the fund at www.cf-sc.org.

- Snohomish County has been asked why child cares remain open if schools are required to close. The Snohomish Health District strongly encourages parents and guardians who can keep their children home at this time to do so. Keeping children at home, hiring a nanny or babysitter to provide one-to-one care, or sharing care responsibilities with other parents in groups of no more than two or three children will help reduce the risk of spreading this disease.

As for why child cares are open, class sizes in child cares tend to be relatively small and child care facilities are generally smaller than schools. Child cares also play a crucial role in ensuring that those who cannot work remotely still have a safe place for their children. The city is providing daycare to current Kids Krew and Junior Kids Krew customers as well as first responders and city employees who are critical to this pandemic response.

- The city continues to work on Zoom teleconference technology to allow for remote Council participation, an ordinance to allow for “remote attendance”, and an amendment to the public comment policy given the COVID-19 public health emergency. The City Clerk participated in a webinar today about how to conduct a “remote” meeting and is developing procedures for the City Council to use.

Once the technology and ordinance are ready, a special meeting will be held to consider an amendment to the City Code to allow for remote attendance. A physical location must still be permitted for public comment but public health measures including social distancing and limits on gathering will be enforced.

- The Parks Division will be spraying down the playground equipment and park restrooms regularly to ensure cleanliness as best as possible. Mountlake Terrace Youth Athletic Association (MTYAA) sports have cancelled practices, as all youth sports are to stop as well.
- Edmonds School District continues to provide free bag breakfasts and lunches at 21 distribution sites during their six-week closure. This week there are three distribution sites/times in Mountlake Terrace:
 - Lakeside Apartments, 9:15–9:30 a.m. (6102 Albion Way)
 - Mountlake Terrace High School, 10-10:30 a.m. (21801-44th Ave. W)
 - Mountlake Terrace Elementary, 11–11:30 a.m. (22001-52nd Ave. W)
 - See Edmonds School District’s [website](#) for other locations/times

Other Agency Updates:

- [Snohomish Health District Frequently Asked Questions – March 18, 2020](#)
- [Edmonds School District](#)
- [Comcast Low-Income Internet Essentials](#)
- [Snohomish PUD Announcement](#) (March 11)

Updates on Meetings and Events

- March 19 Ballinger Park Playground Design meeting is postponed
- March 23 Planning Commission meeting is cancelled
- April 8 Coffee with the City is cancelled
- April 11 Easter Egg Hunt is cancelled (by Cheeseburger Babies Foundation)
- April 11 April Pools Day is cancelled
- April 14 Recreation and Parks Advisory Commission meeting is cancelled