



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Date: April 1st, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

Town of Paradise Weekly Recovery Update

Meetings:

No meetings scheduled

Updates and Statistics:

Building Updates:

889 Building Permit Applications Received
710 Building Permits issued
87 Homes Rebuilt (certificate of occupancy issued)

Weekly Spotlight

As the Town of Paradise continues to recover from the Camp Fire, it is important to remain focused on our important recovery work while taking necessary precautions to protect our community from COVID-19. Until further notice, the Town of Paradise is instituting new temporary procedures to protect the health of our staff and the public. Our ultimate goal remains supporting our residents as they recover. These changes will not impede or slow our recovery but will make us all safer during these uncertain times.

Building Resiliency Center Open by Appointment Only

The Building Resiliency Center is now open by appointment only. This means no walk-ins; you must call first to schedule an appointment. Please only bring those necessary for your task as we strive to keep all visitors and staff safe and healthy. An additional benefit is less wait time!

- To schedule an appointment, call (530) 872-6291 x411
- For building or septic questions call us at (530) 872-6291 x411 or email us at rebuildquestions@townofparadise.com
- Rebuild Advocates are available by phone at (530) 872-6291 x429 or x430.

Town Hall

Town Hall remains closed to the public, with services available by phone or email.

- General Questions (530) 872-6291
- Finance Department (530) 872-6291 x121
- Code Enforcement (530) 872-6291 x124
- Housing Loans (530) 872-6291 x122

What's new:

- On Monday, **Sgt. Cameron Kovacs joined the Town of Paradise Police Department.** Welcome to the Paradise family Sgt. Kovacs!
- **We are looking for residents who need additional financial assistance to help with the reconstruction or repair of their home in Paradise.** Currently, there is \$2.3 million in local, state, and federal funds available to assist eligible households, who were under-insured or not insured, with their housing reconstruction and repairs. These funds are offered as deferred loans. They can be applied towards a variety of housing rehabilitation needs, including reconstruction of a home damaged or destroyed by the Camp Fire, correcting unsafe or unsanitary conditions, eliminating code violation, and weatherization and repairs to ensure handicap accessibility when combined with other repairs. For more information **please reach out to our Rebuild Advocates at 530-872-6291 ext. 411 to speak with someone directly.** At this time we are only taking over the phone appointments until further notice.
- **The April Community Information Meeting will be postponed until further notice.** We want to keep our community as healthy and safe as possible.
- During this time of social distancing, we still want to **show love to our local businesses that are being flexible to stay open and support our community.** For the most up-to-date list of open businesses please visit <http://www.paradisechamber.com/>.
- **Butte County Office of Education** has announced that Butte County Schools will remain closed to in-person instruction at least through May 1, 2020.
- **Housing Urgency Ordinance:** After the fire, Paradise Town Council passed an urgency ordinance which allowed displaced residents to temporarily live on their property in an RV. This urgency ordinance expires on December 31, 2020. That

means starting January 1, 2021, you must have an active building permit to live on your property in an RV.

- **Many private roads in the Camp Fire area are eligible for public assistance funding to remove Hazardous Trees through the State Hazard Tree Removal Program.** The Paradise Town Council and the Butte County Board of Supervisors **passed ordinances requiring the removal of hazard trees damaged by the Camp Fire from private property that may fall into public roadways.** Property owners may enter the Government Tree Program to have the trees removed by the State at **no out-of-pocket cost.** Enrollment in the Government Tree Program requires a Right-of Entry form. Property owners may also identify and remove hazard trees themselves but must submit an inspection form so an inspector may verify the removal of the hazard trees from the property. Property owners may also call the Tree ROE Center directly at (530) 552-3030 or submit Tree ROEs by email at TreeROE@buttecounty.net. The Tree ROE is available for download online at www.ButteCountyRecovers.org/treeremoval.

COVID-19

How can you protect yourself and your family?

In addition to following the [STAY AT HOME order](#), the best way to prevent the spread of respiratory illness is to practice good hygiene:

1. Wash your hands often with soap and water.
2. Cover your cough and sneezes with a tissue or corner of your sleeve. Do not use your hands.
3. Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands, especially your mouth, nose, and eyes.
4. Avoid close contact with sick people.
5. Stay home if you are sick, especially from work, school, and public places.
6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

People at Increased Risk

Adults over the age of 65 and people with underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for serious complications from COVID-19. On Sunday, March 15th, California State Governor Gavin Newsom issued a directive calling for home isolation of:

- All Adults over 65 years old
- All persons with chronic health conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes, and lung disease.

Social Distancing

To protect public health and slow the rate of transmission of COVID-19, all non-essential activities and services, and all social, professional or community-based gatherings should be canceled. This includes the following:

- Gatherings such as concerts, conferences, and professional, college, and school sporting events.
- Gyms, health clubs, and theaters should be closed.
- A “gathering” is any event or convening that brings together people in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, cafeteria, or any other indoor or outdoor space - professional, social or community-based.