



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA CONTACT: 530-872-6291 ext. 112

Date: April 15th, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

Town of Paradise Weekly Recovery Update

Meetings:

Wed. April 15, 6:30 pm

PID Regular Meeting

Virtual: <https://www.facebook.com/pidwater>

Tues. April 21, 6 pm

Planning Commission Meeting

Virtual: <https://livestream.com/townofparadise>

Updates and Statistics:

Building Updates:

917 Building Permit Applications Received

750 Building Permits issued

106 Homes Rebuilt (certificate of occupancy issued)

Statement from Mayor Greg Bolin

The Paradise Town Council members, along with many members of the public, were surprised to learn of Vice-Mayor Zuccolillo's arrest yesterday. This matter is very serious, and the Town understands there is a criminal justice process that will now take place. Since this is an ongoing criminal matter, the Town will have no further comment on this subject. We will continue to focus on rebuilding our Town and bringing our residents and businesses back home.

And now, Some Good News

- Paradise High varsity football Rick Prinz was named the 2019-2020 California Coaches Association's football coach of the year Tuesday. Prinz said that he was told last month that he was a winner, what he didn't know was that it's the first time a Northern Section football coach has received the honor from the CCA. We are so proud of you Coach!

Weekly Spotlight

The Butte Strong Fund committed a \$1 million grant that will continue to help pay permit fees for primary residences in Paradise as well as provide new incentives for rebuilding rentals and multi-family housing. The Town Council has approved the grant to include:

1. Pay 50% of building permit fees (excluding plan check fees) for a single residence, up to \$3,500.
2. Grants for Rebuild Paradise Master Planned residences up to 100% of permit fees (excluding plan check fees) up to \$3,500
3. Grants for garages (up to 700 sqft) associated with MH Advantage Manufactured Homes for 100% of permit fees (excluding plan check fees)
4. Gives priority to rebuilding primary residences, with \$250,000 used for second residences or multi-family structures, and 750,000 for primary residences.

Individuals can learn about the Rebuild Incentive Program by contacting the town's Development Services Department at the Building Resiliency Center in Paradise or calling 872-6291, ext. 411. Thank you to North Valley Community Foundation Butte Strong Fund for this generous contribution!

Building Resiliency Center Open by Appointment Only

The Building Resiliency Center is open by appointment only. Walk-ins will not be admitted; you must call first to schedule an appointment. We ask that you practice social-distancing policies, wear masks and gloves when coming in to protect yourself, Town staff and your fellow community members. Please only bring those necessary for your task as we strive to keep all 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:

- **Camp Fire Shed Project:** A \$150,000 grant will provide funding for another round of the highly successful volunteer effort. Members of Paradise Adventist Church will partner with Maranatha Volunteers International to build and deliver 400 high-quality, secure storage sheds to selected recipients who live throughout the Camp Fire burn scar. The project directly benefits people who lost their homes, are living in RVs and who intend to rebuild.
- **Butte County has established a COVID-19 information line** to keep the public as informed as possible. The call center will be staffed 8AM-5PM, seven days a week. Members of the public with questions regarding COVID-19 in Butte County are encouraged to call 530.552.3050. Butte County residents may also dial 2-1-1 (24/7) or text their zip code to 898211 for information and updates. The text line is available Monday-Friday 7:30am – 6:00pm.
- **Butte County Office of Education** has announced that Butte County Schools will remain closed to in-person instruction for the rest of the 2019-2020 academic year.
- **Adventist Health announced it has launched its on-demand virtual services, allowing doctors to meet with patients remotely.** These virtual visits will allow for health workers and their patients to keep that safe distance but still receive the care they need. Providers will use the visits to screen for coronavirus cases, handle routine visits and the chronically ill, all while calming nerves of having to come into a clinic during the pandemic. To participate in a virtual visit, a patient just needs a smartphone, tablet or computer with a working camera and microphone. The doctor will send an email with a link for the scheduled visit and patients will just view the link and log on. Adventist Health said they are reaching out to patients to reschedule appointments as virtual visits, if possible. If you have a scheduled in-person appointment and would like it to be virtual, you can make that change by calling your office.
- **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 May Community Information Meeting will be broadcast live via Youtube so everyone can be present from afar.** The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5th at 6pm.
- 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/>.
- **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.

- **In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services organized a Delivery Task Force for individuals who have been told by a medical professional to isolate or quarantine.**

The Delivery Task Force is available to individuals with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis, individuals who are awaiting COVID-19 test results, as well as individuals advised by a medical professional to isolate or quarantine who have no support system.

Individuals who are interested in the delivery service can call 2-1-1 or the Butte County COVID-19 Call Center at 552.3050 for more information. Staff will assist in ensuring all available resources and programs are utilized before referring the individual to the Delivery Task Force.

The Delivery Task Force is intended to fill in possible gaps in resources. The Delivery Task Force can deliver basic necessities, such as groceries and prescriptions. Payment for items must be made in advance. If payment assistance is needed, staff will assist the individual in contacting a local food bank and will deliver a prepackaged box of food.

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.