March 23, 2020

**Clarification of Marin County Parks Closures**

On March 21, 2020 we urged those around the Bay Area to stay-at-home and suspend all non-essential travel. Our coast was inundated with visitors from all around the Bay Area, overcrowding our essential businesses and creating unsafe gatherings and unsafe conditions for our community as a whole.

On March 22, 2020, due to ongoing congregation at our recreational areas, we issued an order for the immediate closure of all Marin parks and open spaces – including national, state, county, city and local town parks. This was a necessary step to protect our community.

After careful consideration, we are making the following part of the Public Health Order:

- All agencies and jurisdictions operating parks, campgrounds, and open spaces are hereby required to cease all public facing non-essential operations and services (including parking) at facilities located within the County. Only non-motorized access to and from will be allowed and visitors shall maintain six-foot social distancing.

This addition to the Public Health Order is in the best interest of our community health. Does it prohibit you from utilizing the open space or trails near your home? No. It does however limit your ability to drive to a park or open space area within the county, which is considered non-essential travel. Please walk, bike or use means other than a vehicle to get to an outdoor recreation area near you.

Thank you for helping us flatten the curve and keeping Marin County healthy and safe.

Matt Willis, MD, MPH
Public Health Officer
Mwillis@marincounty.org

Lisa M. Santora, MD, MPH
Deputy Public Health Officer
Lsantora@marincounty.org