



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

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April 3, 2020

Dear Fairfax Community,

As we near the end of the 3rd week of the now extended 'shelter in place' order, I want to share 2 quotes which have helped lift my spirits and provided me a direction forward.

"Social distancing does not mean social isolation", and "Sheltering in place does not mean disengagement".

The six-foot physical distancing mandate challenges us to find other ways to stay close and connected, and Fairfax is rising to the occasion.

Our community is stepping up with 'Only In Fairfax' style creativity and caring. As of today, 113 people, many of them High School and College students wanting to give back, are participating in our 1 to 1 Volunteer Matching Program and have been partnered with people who have reached out for help. We are deeply committed to connecting people and assuring that no one is left feeling isolated and alone. Other communities in Marin have asked for our advice and thankfully are implementing similar programs. If you would like to volunteer or you are someone in need of assistance, please sign up at www.townoffairfax.org/1-to-1-volunteer-matching-program.

As I communicate with Fairfax residents, I am deeply inspired by people's strength in these times.

Parents of school aged children have stepped up overnight to double as homeschool teachers.

Our teachers and school administrators are reinventing curriculum, distributing digital devices and working to provide equitable access to technology, as well as covering students' basic needs such as meals for students who receive 'free and reduced' subsidies.

The Fairfax PD and Ross Valley Fire personnel are working the front lines and educating the public, as well as responding to emergencies, and as always, they are offering support in response to resident's needs.

Fairfax town staff are doing the business of the town while working from home with only 2 staff members allowed in Town Hall at a time. I am deeply grateful for their flexibility, seamless transition to a new way of getting things done, with no essential town services slipping through the cracks.

Our restaurants have found ways to provide delicious takeout meals and are offering free delivery. PLEASE SUPPORT THEM!

It is harder for our shops to do business, so please do some online shopping or purchase gift cards.

Profound gratitude is due to the grocery stores and especially the clerks who come to work and face customers despite the risk of exposure.

Finally, to the healthcare workers in our community, your courage to go to work every day in order to protect our health is a selfless act of service and we are forever in your debt.

We are all in this together like never before, and the degree to which we obey the shelter in place and distancing orders will determine how quickly we are able to flatten the curve. We each have an obligation to act in the best interest of the whole community.

Please stay at home except to grocery shop, purchase essentials and exercise. On April 2nd, the regional recommendation from Public Health, is to wear a face cover when you do go out. We are told to "STAY IN place and maintain space" We are so lucky to have such a beautiful place to STAY IN. Please be well!

Renée Goddard
Mayor, Town of Fairfax