

TOWN OF LOOMIS



TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members
FROM: Sean Rabé, Town Manager
DATE: August 11, 2020
SUBJECT: Town Manager Report for August 2020 Council Meeting

Mayor and Council Members,

As with recent Town Manager reports, this monthly report will focus primarily on the Town's COVID-19 response.

Town COVID-19 Activities:

Town Staff continues to work with our regional and state partners on moving the Town through the reopening process.

As Council may know, last month Placer County has been placed on the State's watch list, thus requiring the closure of certain types of businesses. Those business include (but aren't limited to) the following:

1. Hair salons and barber shops
2. Indoor seating at restaurants
3. Breweries, unless food is served as well – if so, outdoor seating only
4. Indoor activities at Wine Tasting Rooms
5. Religious services
6. Offices for non-critical infrastructure businesses
7. Personal Care Services (including nail salons, massage parlors, and tattoo parlors)

In order to help our business community, the Town has taken the following actions:

1. We placed eight aluminum patio table sets and market umbrellas to provide for outdoor seating for those wishing to eat outside near the Train Depot. We now have 11 tables and 38 chairs at the Depot.
2. The Town has relaxed requirements for outdoor seating at our restaurants. Several restaurants are now using outdoor seating for their patrons. We have created a small outdoor seating area in the parking area in front of Il Pizzaiolo on Taylor Road, as that restaurant has no outdoor eating area otherwise.
3. The State provided Placer County and its cities with a stockpile of paper masks and hand sanitizer. The Town received 56,000 masks and 2,200 bottles of hand sanitizer. The Chamber of Commerce will be distributing these masks and sanitizer to our local businesses on August 21 at the Town's Corp Yard on Mandarin Court (off Rippey Road). The masks and sanitizer can only be used for local businesses, per State mandate.

The financial implications of the pandemic have been staggering. As Council knows, the Town's budget for the upcoming fiscal year includes using about \$425,000 of reserves to balance. In addition to the COVID revenue loss, Homewood Lumber moved to Rocklin earlier this summer. Between the two revenue losses, the Town is looking at a 32 percent decline in sales tax revenue from the previous year. That is a significant hit to our budget; one that will require either new revenue sources to be identified or significant cuts. Or possibly some of each.

The Town has received its first (of six) CARES Act payments from the State. All told, the Town will receive about \$85,000 in CARES Act funding. The first portion of that funding will be used to offset the cost of the new tables, chairs and umbrellas. Staff will be bringing back to Council in September recommendations on how to use the rest of the funding.

We will also be installing a free public wifi system at the Train Depot and the Loomis Community Library and Community Learning Center to provide internet access for those without it, particularly students. The wifi system will be accessible from the parking lots and parks at both facilities.

The public counter hours at Town Hall remain 9 am to noon, Monday through Thursday. Building inspections continue as well.

Staff Anniversaries:

We have four Staff anniversaries to celebrate this month (I missed last month's anniversaries):

- Planning Assistant Carol Parker (13 years)
- Public Works Operations Assistant David Strock (15 years)
- Finance Director / Town Treasurer Roger Carroll (22 years)
- Administrative Services Officer / Town Clerk Crickett Strock (32 years)

QUESTIONS? Call me at the number below or email me at srabe@loomis.ca.gov.