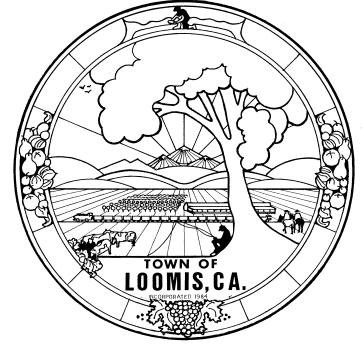


TOWN OF LOOMIS



TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members
FROM: Sean Rabé, Town Manager
DATE: April 14, 2020
SUBJECT: Town Manager Report

Mayor and Council Members,

The focus of this report will primarily be COVID-19 information.

These are uncharted times. But I want to assure Council, Loomis residents and businesses that the Town is still operating, albeit remotely, and we are working as hard as possible to address the needs of our community as quickly as we can, with our small staff.

Town Operations:

- The Town of Loomis declared a State of Local Emergency on March 17 (ratified by the Town Council on March 19 and reaffirmed by the Town Council March 31). More information of that order can be found at <https://loomis.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/03.17.20-Loomis-Proclamation-of-Local-Emergency-for-COVID-19.pdf>
- The public counter at Town Hall remains closed to the public. This closure will remain in effect throughout the duration of the Governor's and County Health Director's Stay-At-Home Orders. Staff continues to work remotely, with some staff coming in on various days to complete work that cannot be done remotely. We can maintain adequate social distancing protocols (six feet between people) at Town Hall.
- The Building Department is still operating, conducting inspections and issuing building permits. We have switched over to an online plan check process through our building inspection contractor, Bureau Veritas. Information on inspections, permits and plan checks is available on the Building Department page on the Town Website.
- **ALL TOWN FACILITIES REMAIN CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.** This includes the Train Depot, Library, and the play structures at Town parks. Our parks are open; however, residents should maintain proper social distancing protocols when visiting them. These closures will continue throughout the duration of the Governor's and County Health Director's Stay-At-Home Orders.
- Our Public Works Crew continues to work while maintaining proper social distancing protocols.
- Town staff is working on the FY 2020-21 budget now. We are obviously trying to analyze revenues and what will be lost.
- We received a few comment emails that Crickett will read into the record after this report. Those comment emails include a draft resolution that the commenters want Council to consider. We will not read the resolution because of its length, but it will be posted to the website. There are two issues in the proposed resolution that I wanted to address, however:
 - *Immediately suspend all fines, fees, and restitution collection attempts until the CDC has publicly stated the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided, including parking and traffic tickets;*
 - The Town is not assessing fines or restitution collection attempts except for egregious code enforcement issues. The Town itself does not control parking or traffic citations as they are issued by the Placer County Sheriff Office.

- *We are asking for a temporary moratorium on evictions until the State of California has publicly stated the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided and Emergency Declaration lifted to ensure residential and small business tenants are able to shelter in place for the sake of public health;*
 - The Judicial Council of California has issued a stay on evictions for at least 90-days after the Governor's order is rescinded. I would also note that we have heard from the Greater Sacramento Economic Council and other economic authorities that business eviction moratoriums have several unintended consequences.

I am VERY proud of how quickly our Staff pivoted and moved to working remotely. The Town literally had no infrastructure in place for this, but we were able to make the switch within a week or so. We had, coincidentally, just upgraded some of the Town's IT infrastructure the week before the switch, which helped immensely.

Communication Efforts:

- I have created a new Town Facebook page (@townlofloomisgovernment) that is specifically for Town information. I strongly encourage folks to follow that page, so all information is in one place and isn't diluted by other posts. Whenever I post something to the Town Facebook page I cross post to the various Loomis community groups (Loomis Community Post; Loomis Chit-Chat; Loomis Friendly Neighborhood & Community; and Neighbors of Loomis California).
 - Since the page's inception on March 17, posts on the Town's Facebook page have reached nearly 2600 people. People have engaged (liked, commented or shared) with the posts nearly 1100 times. Those numbers don't include the cross postings to the other groups.
 - Posts have included shares from Placer County, videos from Mayor Clark-Crets, and links to the Town's email updates (below).
- I have also launched the Town's new information email platform through Mailchimp. This platform allows me to send out informational email campaigns (which are also archived with the ability to go back and look at previous email campaigns). I have been trying to send out at least one of these a week, sometimes two. We are also now using this platform for emailing the agenda.
 - **I strongly encourage residents to sign up for these informational emails. You can do that on the Town Website Homepage (www.loomis.ca.gov).**
 - These email campaigns are being used as the Town's notification system for important information. The Town has a little more than 2200 email addresses in the system. Nearly 50 percent of the recipients are opening the COVID-19 emails.
 - The Town's Homepage has a COVID-19 UPDATE button that links to the latest COVID-19 email mailing.
- We have added a non-hideable header to the Website that provides basic information on Town operations during the outbreak.

Status of Placer County's Response:

As you know, Placer County Health Officer Dr. Aimee Sisson issued a formal Stay-At-Home Order on Friday, April 10. The details of that order can be found at <https://www.placer.ca.gov/6540/Placer-Health-Officer-issues-new-order>. The new order clarifies, strengthens, and extends the terms of the previous directive to reduce person-to-person contact and increase physical distancing in order to further slow transmission of COVID-19, and will be in effect through May 1.

The County has also launched an interactive data portal for COVID-19 cases at <https://placer.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/2e0154ae8a764c2fb8cccc5b58d5ce8e>.

As of this morning, the number of positive Placer County cases is 128, with five deaths.

The County Health Officer has recommended all Placer County residents wear a face covering when conducting essential businesses. Wearing a face covering **DOES NOT** take the place of social distancing, however. The new recommendation comes after increasing evidence that transmission of the virus can occur as early as three days before people develop symptoms. But health officials stress that face coverings should be used in tandem with, not in place of, other strategies.

IT IS CRITICAL TO FOLLOW THE GOVERNOR'S ORDER AND THE COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER'S ORDER TO CONTINUE TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS!

Schools Responses:

Loomis Union School District Superintendent Gordon Medd has provided the following update on the District's grammar schools:

- We began Distance Learning on March 15. All staff are working from home except custodial, maintenance, food service and some district office staff.
- All schools are closed. District Office open between 10am-2pm to accept registrations and to hand out Chromebooks and hotspots.
- We are providing qualifying students and their families a breakfast and lunch with some additional items for dinner and snacks through our food service department. Serving out of all school sites except during spring break where we served out of Loomis Grammar School.
- Due to the generosity of Sysco Foods we are able to serve student and their families significantly more food each day and were able to serve during Spring Break (April 4-13).
- We return to online instruction tomorrow April 14 and will continue Distance Learning until the end of the current school year in June.
- Our staff have been amazing and have focused on supporting students and their families. Our teachers, principals, counselors and psychologists are monitoring and supporting many families struggling during this time.
- Parents have been incredibly flexible and are doing a fabulous job at home with their children doubling as parent and teacher.
- We have a state approved childcare program at Loomis Grammar providing childcare primarily to first responders and essential workers.

Del Oro High School Principal Chelsy Naumann will call into the meeting tonight to provide an update on the High School's response.

Business response from the Town and Loomis Basin Chamber of Commerce:

Mayor Jan Clark-Crets established an Emergency Business Task Force early on during the outbreak to address and assist our local businesses. They have been meeting weekly and have created a new business campaign called We Love Loomis. Chamber Executive Director Jenny Knisley will provide an update on the Chamber and the Task Force during the meeting.

Law Enforcement Response:

Placer County Sheriff's Office Loomis Substation Lieutenant Brian Silva will provide an update during the meeting tonight.

These are uncharted times, but our **Small Town** will get through them together as a **Big Family**.