



COVID-19 Community Update

A Summary of City News for the week of April 19-25, 2020

We are committed to keeping you informed. The following is an update on the City's response to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and reduce the impact on our community.

Plans Underway for a Phased Reopening

The City and County are in the process of developing a plan for a phased reopening, but that effort is focused on how it will happen and not when. That decision will be made by the County Public Health Officer based on scientific guidance and data, in coordination with public and private partners, to ensure the community reopens and the local workforce gets back to work as safely as possible. In addition, the County cannot reopen until such time as the Governor modifies the Statewide order and returns full or partial authority to local agencies.

The County is providing an opportunity for the public to provide their input on reopening using an online survey. [Click here to take the survey.](#)

Ultimately, we will all need to adapt to a new normal as the community and commerce opens gradually in planned phases as determined by data and public health officials. Remember, it's a dimmer, not a light switch.

Mental Health & Emotional Support Services

We have to care of ourselves and each other! It is more important than ever to monitor your own physical and mental health, as well as safely stay connected to friends and family. If you need support, please call the SLO Hotline at 1-800-783-0607 or [click here to learn more](#). The SLO Hotline is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Business Impact Survey

If you are a San Luis Obispo business owner, manager, decision-maker, or designated representative we want to hear from you! The City is actively developing a plan for economic recovery and resiliency, and we want to hear from you. The survey closes at 7:00 pm Friday, May 1, 2020 and all responses are anonymous. To get started, follow this [link](#) to the survey and one survey per business, please.

Public Engagement Goes Virtual

To enhance public engagement during virtual public meetings, the City has implemented additional features for the public, including the ability to comment live during the meeting. Virtual public meetings, including City Council and City Advisory Body meetings, began on March 15, 2020 and ensures the City continues to deliver essential community services during the Shelter at Home Order. [Click here to learn more here.](#)

County Relaxes Some Business Restrictions

The County has clarified that some business sectors can safely operate under the Shelter at Home order:

- Construction, recreational fishing, elective surgeries, and pet groomers. [Click here to read more.](#)

- Houses of worship can have drive-in services, janitorial and housekeeping services, retail stores that sell fabric, and drive-in movie theaters. [Click here to read more.](#)

In each case, businesses must follow the County's appropriate physical distancing, face covering and protective personal equipment (PPE) guidelines, which are in line with the CDC and CDPH guidelines.

Community Development Ready to Support Construction

With the County's announcement that all construction can move forward, the City's Community Development Department wants you to know that we are standing by (virtually) to assist.

- Planning, Engineering, and Building functions are ready to serve you, and we are accepting new applications of all types.
- The [website](#) has been updated with increased functions, including the ability to apply and pay online. We also have step by step procedures to submit hard-copy applications.
- Our phone tree has been expanded – if you need to talk to someone on the phone, please call 805-781-7170.
- We have implemented new protocols for site inspections to ensure the safety of our customers and our employees. Community Development maintains social distancing in all its functions.
- The Community Development Department public counter remains closed, but we have been successful in supporting our customers' success remotely and will continue to do so until it is safe and recommended that public facilities reopen.

Have Symptoms? GET TESTED

In order to have an accurate picture of the virus in our community it is imperative that anyone showing symptoms get tested for COVID-19. If you are feeling sick, with even mild symptoms, please get tested right away. [Click here](#) for symptom descriptions, testing information and locations.

Additional Resources

- Please visit www.ReadySLO.org for the latest public health updates and recommendations or call the Public Health information Line at (805) 788-2903 (recorded message) or the County's Phone Assistance Center at (805) 543-2444.
- City Business and Community Shelter at Home Hotline – (805) 783-7835 to report concerns or inquire on essential business status.
- [Sign Up for E-Notifications](#): The City is committed to keeping you informed. Please register here to receive periodic email updates and follow the City of San Luis Obispo on social media for the latest information.
- [City of San Luis Obispo COVID-19 Information](#)
- [San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department](#)
- [California Department of Public Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

Have comments, suggestions or need help? We are here to support you! Please email help@slocity.org or call (805) 781-7100.