

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
THEODORE HOSKINS**



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**MESSAGE FOR THE EMERGENCY MANAGER  
MAYOR THEODORE TED HOSKINS**

Effective immediately I have declared a “State of Emergency” in the City of Berkeley.

I hereby issue the following orders related to the Supplemental Proclamation of Emergency or Disaster (COVID-19 [Novel Coronavirus]), dated March 18, 2020 (the “Orders”). The virus that causes Coronavirus 2019 Disease (“COVID-19”) is easily transmitted, especially in group settings, and it is essential that the spread of COVID- 19 be slowed to protect the ability of public and private health care providers to handle the influx of new patients and to safeguard public health and safety. I am in the process of forming a COVID -19 committee to address the necessary needs of the city.

In addition, the intent of these orders is to encourage the maximum number of people to practice social distancing and slow the spread of COVID- 19, consistent and in compliance with all current guidance of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), while enabling essential activities, business, and government functions to continue.

During this unprecedented time in our world, I want to urge you and thank you for complying with all Federal, State, and Local guidelines to combat and prevent the spread of Coronavirus. Please practice social distancing, good hand hygiene, and avoid touching your face. Avoid any unnecessary social contact.

To protect the health and safety of both citizens and personnel, City Hall has been temporarily closed to walk-in traffic. City operations will continue with staff available to provide services while social distancing. Some of our employees have been asked to work from home which includes the city clerk. The city manager, finance department, public works and street department are still working but are practicing social distancing. The Berkeley Police Department and Fire Department will always work in its full capacity however have limited walk-in traffic to the buildings. We thank our first responders who put their lives on the line every day.

I want to reassure our residents we are able to maintain all city operations and services, to the extent that we are able to avoid quarantine and exposure. Police, fire, and the emergency communications center (911), along with other City employees will continue their duties while observing social distancing and hand sanitation best practices.

In an effort to slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), to minimize the public exposure, and to ensure the continuity of essential City Services, the City of Berkeley has significantly altered operations to help keep its residents healthy and safe. We have also canceled and suspended events at the Civic Center. In addition, Berkeley Municipal Division has canceled court due to health concerns. All defendants scheduled for court will receive a notice confirming their new court date.

Because of the projected significant impact on revenue some changes will be forth coming. This state of emergency shall remain into effect until further notice.

*Mayor Theodore Hoskins*

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