



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Menifee Signs Proclamation of Local Emergency

MENIFEE, CA– The City of Menifee formalized a Proclamation of Local Emergency today based on the rapidly evolving challenges to slow the spread of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Menifee Mayor Bill Zimmerman states “the situation changes daily, and in just four days the Order of the Riverside University Health System-Public Health (RUHS-Public Health), who is the official public health authority for our region, restricted public gatherings from 250 individuals to no more than 10 within the same space until April 30, 2020.” While no COVID-19 cases are reported within the City of Menifee, the Menifee City Council acknowledges the necessity of swift measures to ensure the public health and safety of our community,” and adds, “it is important that the community of Menifee continue to practice kindness, patience and civility, and that these restrictions are temporary, and are being applied by the County and State to ensure the safety and well-being of our families and neighbors while also minimizing the impacts to those on the frontlines of the pandemic.”

Last week, the City closed all of its community facilities and canceled or postponed events, classes and activities at the direction of RUHS-Public Health Official to encourage social distancing, and to stem COVID-19 cases within our region that could overwhelm local hospitals. Information on City closures and postponed events as well as, COVID-19 resources, residents are encouraged to visit www.cityofmenifee.us/coronavirus .

“The City of Menifee is underway with creative efforts to support the community during this historic and challenging time. For example, we are ensuring that the temporary closure of the Kay Cenicerros Senior Center does not impact our vulnerable populations from the low cost lunches they looked forward to each day in the City, in partnership with Office on Aging and the City’s meal vendor FSA,” states Mayor Pro Tem Matthew Liesemeyer.

“In addition, we are very appreciative of the partnerships with Perris Union High School District and Menifee Union School District and their volunteers, for assisting so many of our youth 18 year and younger with free lunches,” states Councilmember Lesa Sobek. “For some families, they depend on the school meals they receive to make ends meet, and now these families need them more than ever.”

The City’s local economy is not immune from this global health emergency and the difficult impacts businesses, and their workforce are facing with these social restrictions. The City’s Economic Development and Community Services Departments are refocusing its efforts to seek innovative ways that can support local residents and businesses throughout this pandemic, in collaboration with the Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce. Councilmember Dean Dienes advises everyone to follow the directives of the Centers for Disease Control, “Wash hands frequently, clean and disinfect surfaces often, sneeze or cough into your elbow or a tissue, and



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practice social distancing but also find ways to check in on your neighbor, buy takeout food from restaurants, purchase items from local stores online, and let Menifee be the example of collaboration, kindness, and thoughtfulness to each other and to our local businesses because we are all in it together.”

The City’s Emergency Proclamation, signed today by Mayor Bill Zimmerman, will enable the City to streamline logistical resources and recovery measures needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was voted on unanimously by the Menifee City Council that were present at its meeting on Wednesday, March 18. Please monitor the City of Menifee social media and webpage for new information and for important links regarding COVID-19 at www.cityofmenifee.us/coronavirus .

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ABOUT MENIFEE: *Situated in the heart of southern Riverside County along Interstate 215, Menifee is a vibrant, new city of more than 95,000 residents who enjoy a pleasant year-round climate, abundant recreational offerings, reasonably priced housing and convenient proximity to some of Southern California’s premiere attractions and employment centers. Within its 50 square miles, Menifee’s business, retail and entertainment outlets are starting to shape the community’s character and this growing economic base is also contributing favorably to the city’s strong financial position. Menifee’s growing family-oriented population values the city’s ongoing commitment to public safety, community events and smart growth for the future. All of these elements are working together to support the city’s strategic vision to make Menifee one of the state’s most promising new cities.*