



MAYOR'S OFFICE



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To the Citizens & Visitors of Westbrook,

I would like to provide additional updates on the City's response to protect the public health and safety in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19). We remain in close communication with federal, state and regional officials on developments related this situation.

Ensuring the safety of our employees and the general public while also continuing to provide the services necessary to run the City is of paramount importance to us. **In order to minimize the rise of exposure to employees, volunteers and the general public, all public meetings have been cancelled through April 5, 2020.** During this time period, we will monitor this public health situation and modify this directive as appropriate. This includes all City Council, School Committee and other municipal boards, committees or commissions.

I have also directed the Walker Memorial Library and Westbrook Community Center to suspend any non-essential programs and services at these two facilities. Consistent with the guidelines issued by the CDC and in consultation with Public Health and Public Safety officials, we are seeking to minimize our public gatherings and events in order to reduce the spread of this highly contagious virus. Citizens are also encouraged to practice 'social distancing' to protect themselves and others.

Police, Fire & Rescue and Public Services will remain fully operational. City Hall will also remain open; however we strongly encourage the use of telephone, email and online services wherever possible for conducting business with the City. It is also my understanding the Westbrook School Department is remaining open at this time, but all co-curricular activities have been suspended.

This preventative action is being taken out of an abundance of caution and concern for everyone and not panic. This response is similar amongst communities in the region. We apologize for any inconveniences you may experience as a result of these measures.

We recognize that the spread of this virus is a fluid and rapidly evolving situation that requires close monitoring and the need to adapt quickly. We will continue to monitor and respond accordingly as well as provide additional updates to everyone should recommendations change.

Like we would in many situations such as storms or power outages, we encourage everyone to check in with their neighbors and help each other out if/when possible.

For more information on the status of the virus, we recommend visiting the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus or www.maine.gov for Maine specific information. These links are on our website and social media which can then be shared with family and friends in an effort to improve the public's response to this issue.

Thank you and stay safe,

Mayor Michael T. Foley