



NEWS RELEASE
City of Chico
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*****MEDIA ALERT*****

CITY OF CHICO TO BEGIN ENFORCEMENT OF STATEWIDE AND MONITORING LIST ORDERS

(Chico, CA – July 30, 2020 –) Effective immediately and upon direction of the City Council, the City of Chico will begin enforcement of Governor Gavin Newsom’s and State Health Officer Sonia Angell’s Statewide Orders pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic. These orders include the wearing of face coverings in public spaces when physical distancing is not possible, ensuring businesses are abiding by the closure of indoor operations due to Butte County being added to the State’s watch list, and ensuring those businesses authorized to remain open are abiding by the State’s prescribed protocols.

“Moving forward with the City Council’s directive to ensure public health remains the top priority, City staff will be pressing ahead with enforcement while finding viable ways for local businesses to maintain operations, where possible,” said Mark Orme, City of Chico City Manager. “The City’s recent orders allowing for alternative approaches to conducting business is a sincere attempt toward finding a necessary balance between protecting public health and helping to ensuring the long-term stability of Chico’s business community.”

After weeks of educating local businesses, City staff will now begin to move to the next phase of giving notices of violation to those businesses affronting the State of California’s orders. If compliance is not achieved, citations will be issued, all relevant state governing agencies will be notified, and, if necessary, appropriate legal action will be taken.

Due to Butte County’s addition to the State’s monitoring list, the following businesses must close operations *unless they can be modified to operate outside or by pick-up*:

- Gyms and fitness centers
- Places of worship
- Protests
- Offices for non-critical infrastructure sectors
- Personal care services (including nail salons, massage parlors, and tattoo parlors)
- Hair salons and barbershops
- Malls

In addition, the following closures were ordered to close indoor operations statewide on July 13, 2020:

- Dine-in restaurants
- Wineries and tasting rooms

- Movie theaters
- Family entertainment centers
- Zoos and museums
- Cardrooms
- Indoor and outdoor operations of bars, brewpubs, breweries, and pubs, unless they are offering sit-down, outdoor dine-in meals.

To report a business that is in violation, please call the Code Enforcement Division's Hotline at (530) 879-6330 or by email at codeenforcement@chicoca.gov.

The City has taken numerous steps to assist our local business community in their ability to continue to deliver goods and services including issuing emergency orders for outdoor operations for both food and non-food establishments affected by the closure orders, allowing these businesses to use both private and public right of way space with receipt of the proper applications.

“Realizing that the vast majority of our residents and local businesses have proactively complied with the Governor's orders, the City wishes to thank the community for their continued commitment to the health and safety of our citizens, as well as for their patience during these extremely difficult times,” said Mark Orme.

For media inquiries, please contact or Lynda Gizzi, Public Information Officer, at (530) 896-7204.

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