



Santa Fe County Commission District 3

Newsletter

March 30, 2020

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Update

A Public Health Order was issued by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham March 23, 2020 to set out enhanced rules for groups of five or more and instructions for all New Mexicans to stay home. In addition, the orders allows for essential functions to continue. In order to comply with the Governor's order and still assist our citizens, Santa Fe County will continue to provide essential service to county residents electronically, telephonically, and by appointment effective Friday, March 27, 2020.

After a public announcement by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham was made declaring an emergency existed due to COVID-19, the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners passed a resolution on March 24, 2020, declaring Santa Fe County an Emergency Area as a result of COVID-19. The resolution authorizes, subject to any required notification to and/or negotiations with unions, the County Manager to modify the County human resources handbook and provisions of collective bargaining agreements and establish emergency policies in response to the COVID-19 emergency. This approval ratified action previously taken and authorized appropriate measures going forward.

The resolution also grants the County Manager the discretionary authority to extend due dates for money owed to the County, waive penalties and interest for late payments, or delay the consequences of delinquent payment to the extent that existing ordinances, resolutions, or policies exist. In the event that existing ordinances, resolutions, or policies do not currently grant such discretionary authority to the County Manager, the resolution directs the County Manager and

County Attorney to prepare an emergency ordinance for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, that would provide such discretionary authority

Here are some updates regarding Santa Fe County Departments and Reduced Public Service hours:

- **All Santa Fe County buildings and facilities will be open to the public by appointment only**
- **Satellite offices will implement reduced hours with the Eldorado Satellite Office continuing to be closed, and Pojoaque and Edgewood open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10:00 a.m. to noon.**
- **County staff will continue to provide assistance to residents online or by telephone.**
- **Public Safety services will continue as an essential function.**
- **Senior meal delivery will continue in order to take care of our vulnerable population.**
- **Transfer stations and Public Works activities will continue to serve the county's needs.**

Please help Santa Fe County practice social distancing by contacting the County through our [online chat](#) or by calling 995-6533, Monday – Friday between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Thank you for your patience as we all get through the COVID-19 pandemic together.

Although Santa Fe County Government remains open for business, we are making every effort to increase social distancing and promote healthy behaviors. As such, we encourage all Santa Fe County residents who need to conduct business with the County to take the following measures:

- Visit our **website www.santafecountynm.gov** for information and to utilize the chat function to request assistance.
- Downloading or following the daily Santa Fe County Podcast at on Spotify at anchor.fm/meetsantafecounty.
- Visiting the Santa Fe County facebook account at <https://www.facebook.com/SantaFeCounty/>
- Or by calling the following telephone numbers:
 - Community Services Department: 992-9849
 - Public Works: 992-3010
 - Adult Jail Facility: 471-4941
 - Youth Detention Center: 424-5605
 - Growth Management/Land Use: 986-6225
 - Fire Department: 992-3070
 - Clerk's Office: 986-6280
 - Treasurer's Office: 986-6245
 - County Assessor: 986-6300
 - Probate Judge: 992-1636
 - Sheriff's Department: 986-2455

Please stay safe and practice social distancing. If you are experiencing health difficulties, The New Mexico Department of Health has established a Coronavirus hotline for all health related questions. They can be reached by phoning 855-600-3453. For up to date information on the outbreak of New Mexico please visit cv.nmhealth.org.

We understand this is stressful time for many New Mexicans. If you or a loved one are experiencing a crisis, please phone **New Mexico Crisis and Access Line (NMCAL) 855-662-7474**. The hotline is available on a 24/7 basis and is staffed by licensed counselors.

Thank you for your understanding and patience during this public health crisis.

We are so proud of how quickly our community has come together to help each other get through the challenges and uncertainties of the COVID-19 outbreak. You inspire us every day, and especially today when we most need to stick together during this time when we have to be apart!

In partnership with The City of Santa Fe, and with generous information sharing across multiple agencies and organizations, we've put together a one-stop-shop

resource website for individuals, families, small businesses impacted by COVID-19. Visit www.alltogethersantafe.org or SantaFeCountyHelpForBussinesses for the latest on COVID-19 news and updates, financial and community resources, activities, ideas for small businesses, and tips for how to keep yourself, your families, and your neighbors safe.

Please feel free to contact me at

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or by reaching the District 3 Constituent Services Liaison Ambra Baca at

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505-986-6377

