



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Peggy Hawker

541.574.0613

**CITY OF NEWPORT  
REOPENS VARIOUS FACILITIES AND PROGRAMMING  
ON A LIMITED BASIS**

On December 3, Oregon introduced a new framework of safety measures based on each county's COVID-19 risk level. The new framework has four risk levels. At each risk level – Extreme Risk, High Risk, Moderate Risk, and Lower Risk – health and safety measures and guidance for businesses and individuals apply. Lincoln County is in the “High Risk” level.

Access to various City of Newport facilities and programs has changed, and new accessibility follows:

- Newport City Hall will be open to the public Monday through Thursday from 8:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M., or by appointment. The City Hall will remain closed on Fridays.
- The Newport Recreation and Aquatic Centers are open limited hours by appointment. Check the website at <https://newportoregon.gov/dept/par/default.asp> for additional information.
- The Library is open for take-out only.
- The 60+ Activity Center remains closed.
- The Visual Arts Center is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from noon until 4:00 P.M. Additional information is available at <https://coastarts.org/venues/newport-visual-arts-center/>.

- The Performing Arts Center is closed.
- City Council, Planning Commission, and advisory committee meetings will be meeting in the hybrid format. The meetings will be virtual, with a limited number of public allowed in the Council Chambers. All meetings are viewable on Charter Channel 190 and live-streamed on the city website at [www.newportoregon.gov](http://www.newportoregon.gov). Public comment may be made at [publiccomment@newportoregon.gov](mailto:publiccomment@newportoregon.gov). Anyone wishing to speak during a virtual meeting may make that request to [publiccomment@newportoregon.gov](mailto:publiccomment@newportoregon.gov), at least four hours prior to the scheduled meeting, or attend the meeting subject to social distancing measures.

The duration of the limitations and closures is unknown at this time, but they will remain in effect until further notice. If there are changes to the reopening plan, these changes will be articulated to the public.

It is important to note that there is no zero risk category. Until COVID-19 vaccines are widely available, health and safety precautions will remain in place so that schools, businesses, and communities can reopen - and stay open. For additional information regarding the risk framework, visit the Oregon Health Authority website at <https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>.

To prevent COVID-19 outbreaks, at every risk level, everyone needs to continue to wear face coverings, watch physical distances, wash hands, stay home when sick, and keep social get-togethers and gatherings small.

**#####**