



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Peggy Hawker
541.574.0613

CITY OF NEWPORT RE-OPENING OF FACILITIES, PROGRAMMING, AND MEETINGS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Newport closed facilities, programming, and meetings in March. Lincoln County will be entering Phase Two of re-opening on September 29, and the city is working on its re-opening plan as well. Re-opening will be a process for the city as many buildings required modification to re-open, and in some cases, the modifications are not complete. This could potentially delay the full re-opening of various facilities.

The following facilities will open, at some level, during the week of October 5, 2020:

1. City Hall, including the Police Department, will be open from 8:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M., Monday through Thursday. The building will be closed during the previous open hours of 3:00 - 5:00 P.M., on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The building will remain closed on Fridays except by appointment. The Friday closure is designed to allow the reduced staff (due to budget cuts) to continue to support city services. Access to City Hall during open hours will be through the main entrance (Highway 101 entrance).
2. Events may occur at the Airport subject to gathering restrictions imposed by Governor Brown and appropriate physical distancing.
3. The Library will tentatively re-open, on a limited basis, on October 19 for computer usage by appointment only. Access to Library materials will continue through the Library's Take-Out Service.
4. The Recreation Center will re-open on October 6 by reservation only. Organized sports will resume at a date to be determined.
5. The Aquatic Center will re-open on October 6 by appointment only. Organized sports will resume at a date to be determined.

6. Playgrounds and sports facilities will re-open. Organized practices on sports fields will be scheduled after meeting with city staff.
7. The Visual Arts Center will re-open on October 24, and will be operating on a modified schedule to be determined.
8. The 60+ Activity Center will remain closed until further notice.

Staff is studying the issue of city meetings. Until further notice, all City Council, Planning Commission, and city advisory committee meetings will occur virtually. Information regarding meeting participation in the city's meetings is included at this link https://www.newportoregon.gov/dept/adm/covid19/City_of_Newport_Emergency_Order_No_2020-25.pdf.

Anyone entering a city facility will be required to wear a mask and have a temperature scan.

The re-opening of any city facility, program, and meeting is subject to change.

Questions should be directed to Peggy Hawker, at p.hawker@newportoregon.gov, or at 541.574.0613.

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