



City of San Juan Bautista

The "City of History"

Message from the City Manager Regarding the Coronavirus Disease

P.O. Box 1420
311 Second Street
San Juan Bautista,
California 95045
Main: (831) 623-4661
Fax: (831) 623-4093

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Mary V. Edge

Vice Mayor

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Councilmember

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Councilmember

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While the number of reported coronavirus cases is low in the US, we feel that it is important to let you know what we are doing to help prevent the spread of the virus and provide additional education and resources to our employees. Similar to prior virus outbreaks, such as SARS, it is important that we follow the guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and our state and local health departments. In addition to the prevention efforts noted below, we will be reviewing our business continuity plans.

Background

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. Common signs and symptoms of this illness include fever, cough and difficulty breathing. In recently reported cases, symptoms have ranged in severity from mild illness to death. The time from exposure to symptom onset ranges from two to 14 days. The virus can be spread from person-to-person, but it is unclear how easily 2019-nCoV is spreading between people at this time. While the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) considers the current risk of infection in the U.S. to be low, risk for infection is higher in health care settings such as hospitals and clinical laboratories.

There are simple everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses. These include

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available

If you are sick, to keep from spreading respiratory illness to others, you should

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Cal/OSHA - Additional Actions for Public Safety Employees, Police, and Fire

The Aerosol Transmissible Diseases (ATD) standard (California Code of Regulations, title 8, section 5199), contains requirements for protecting employees from diseases and pathogens transmitted by aerosols. Coronavirus is an airborne infectious disease covered by the ATD standard. The regulation has been in place for several years and applies to public safety officers, such as police and fire, who are reasonably anticipated to be exposed to confirmed or suspected cases of aerosol transmissible diseases. As required by the ATD standard, we will be providing a training update as it relates to the coronavirus.

Additional Resources

The Centers for Disease Control is the best source of information regarding the coronavirus and has created a [coronavirus website](#) that is updated regularly. We will be actively monitoring the site, as well as working with our local public health officials. As we receive new information and/or guidance, we will provide an update to employees. We encourage employees to review the [fact sheet](#) developed by the CDC and as well as their [Share the Facts site](#) that was developed to address mis-information about the virus.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>