



# City of West Hollywood

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **City of West Hollywood Issues New Emergency Executive Order Addressing Measures for Face Coverings, Taxes and Fees, Construction Noise, Neighborhood Meetings, and Traffic Easement**

*Beginning Saturday, May 23 All Persons, Including Essential Workers,  
Must Wear Face Coverings while in Public at Anytime*

*Selected Streets will be Temporarily Closed to Through Traffic for  
'Slow Streets' to Assist with Pedestrian Physical Distancing*

*For Updates Related to West Hollywood  
Visit [www.weho.org/coronavirus](http://www.weho.org/coronavirus); Follow @wehocity on Twitter and  
Facebook; Subscribe to Email Alerts at [weho.org/email](http://weho.org/email)*

*For LA County Public Health Updates  
Visit [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus)*

**WEST HOLLYWOOD, May 18, 2020** – The City of West Hollywood is making every effort to respond to community needs during the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency. Paul Arevalo, the City of West Hollywood City Manager and Director of Emergency Services, issued a third **Emergency Executive Order (2020-3)** on Thursday, May 14, 2020 **Implementing Emergency Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19.**

Emergency Executive Order 2020-3 addresses a wide range of measures including face covering requirements (effective Saturday, May 23, 2020), traffic easement, taxes and fees, construction noise, and neighborhood meetings. Full text of the new Emergency Executive Order is available on the City's website (PDF) at <https://www.weho.org/home/showdocument?id=46373>.

Highlights of Emergency Executive Order 2020-3 include:

Effective on Saturday, May 23, 2020 —

- **All persons, including essential workers, must wear face coverings,** such as scarves (dense fabric without holes), bandanas, neck gaiters, or

similar coverings of any other material that reduces transmission of germs anytime they are out in public. N95 or medical-grade masks should be reserved for healthcare workers and first responders. Face coverings are not required for young children under age two, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance. Children between two- and eight-years-old should only wear face coverings with adult supervision. This Order provides consistency with the cities of Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, and Santa Monica, which have implemented the same requirements.

Effective Immediately —

- The annual rent stabilization fee (\$144/dwelling unit charged for all units covered by the rent increase limit in the Rent Stabilization Ordinance, also known as the Annual General Adjustment or AGA) will remain due and payable on July 1, 2020; however, any corresponding late fee for late payments are waived if the fee is paid by October 15, 2020;
- Due to the closure of City facilities, and the inability to safely open the City's cooling centers for seniors, the City will deliver fans to senior citizens who request fans during high-heat days that the cooling center would have regularly been open to the public;
- Construction noise is prohibited between the hours of 5 p.m. and 8 a.m., unless authorized through an extended hours permit. This provision does not apply to the City's construction projects deemed by the City Council on April 6, 2020 to be an essential function of the City;
- The annual Parking Credits payments to the city, due in July (for the period of July 2020 to July 2021), is deferred this year and not due until September 2020. The twelve-month fee will be prorated and businesses will only pay for nine months of parking credits;
- Upon written request to the City Manager each month and throughout the period of declared local emergency, remittance of monthly

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) from a hotel to the City may be deferred for a period not to exceed 30 days;

- For businesses that alter business operations in response to COVID-19 and require a temporary use permit to accomplish those changes in operations, the Temporary Use Permit fee is waived for temporary uses exercised during the period of the declared local emergency;
- Neighborhood meetings required for certain development projects under the WHMC or conditions of project approval may be conducted as follows:
  - In lieu of in-person neighborhood meetings, the developer may provide a video presentation of the project and accept written comments and questions for a period of time following transmittal of the video presentation. Comments/questions may be responded to by email communication or posting on the City's website. The link to the video will be provided in the notice of neighborhood meeting; and
  - In lieu of in-person neighborhood construction meetings that take place before construction begins, the developer may conduct those meetings virtually using services such as Zoom, which allow for virtual presentation of construction mitigation details and plan and allow for participant questions and comments.
- Assessments for the businesses included as part of the West Hollywood Design Improvement District are deferred from August 1, 2020 until December 1, 2020, and any late fees and/or penalties are waived; and
- The following streets will be temporarily closed to through traffic for a 'Slow Streets' program, creating space for residents to be outside while practicing safe social distancing. This list may be modified through future executive orders in response to feedback from the City's Transportation Commission, City Council, City staff, and local

residents. Notices shall be provided to the dwelling units on the closed street segments before the closure. Residents will continue to have regular street access to their dwelling units and residents must adhere to physical distancing and the use of facial coverings:

- Sherwood Drive between Huntley Drive and West Knoll Drive (three blocks);
- Hancock Avenue between Holloway Drive and West Knoll Drive (one block);
- Gardner Street between Romaine Street and Willoughby Avenue (one block);
- Lexington Avenue between Gardner Street and Vista Street (one block); and,
- Cynthia Street between Wetherly Drive and Hilldale Avenue (two blocks).

“The City of West Hollywood is continuing to respond to needs as issues arise from this unprecedented pandemic,” said City of West Hollywood Mayor John D’Amico. “As some restrictions are gradually changing at the state and county level, it is vital, now more than ever, that we all do our part to help protect ourselves. In West Hollywood, we will protect one another by requiring we wear face coverings every time we leave the house. They call this a ‘novel coronavirus’ because it is new, something we haven’t seen before. Some people may be asymptomatic and may be unaware that they can spread the virus to others. There is no vaccine and there are few treatment options for people who get very sick from COVID-19. We’re all learning how to fight this disease and we know that prevention is the best medicine. Let’s listen to our medical experts and abide by wearing face coverings when we’re in public. When we look out for one another, we are truly stronger together, WeHo.”

The two prior Emergency Executive Orders have been issued by the City of West Hollywood: [Executive Order No. 2020-1](#) implements emergency measures to assist local businesses through the COVID-19 crisis and [Executive Order No. 2020-2](#) implements a series of emergency measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19,

including the closure of all City parks and dog parks, which still remain closed at this time. The City approved a [Resolution](#) proclaiming a Local Emergency on March 16, 2020. City of West Hollywood Emergency Executive Orders will remain in effect for the duration of the Local Emergency, which is currently through June 30, 2020, but may change dependent on the evolution of the coronavirus health crisis.

The City of West Hollywood is advising community members to adhere to Los Angeles County Safer at Home and California State Stay at Home [orders](#). The City urges everyone to stay in place, maintain your space, and cover your face. Leave home only for essential needs; always use social distancing of at least six feet; and follow guidelines to use cloth face coverings such as bandanas or scarves so that medical masks, which are in short supply, are prioritized for health professionals.

West Hollywood City Hall is currently closed to the public and has suspended all in-person transactions. All public City buildings, playgrounds, parks, dog parks, and facilities are closed. City Hall will remain accessible for business and essential services with transactions to be conducted by phone (323) 848-6400 and via the City's website at [www.weho.org](http://www.weho.org).

The City of West Hollywood coronavirus updates are available at [www.weho.org/coronavirus](http://www.weho.org/coronavirus) and the City encourages community members to follow @wehocity on Twitter and Facebook and Instagram and turn on notifications for up-to-date information regarding details in the City of West Hollywood.

To view essential-business City meetings, tune in to WeHoTV at:

- [www.weho.org/wehotv](http://www.weho.org/wehotv)
- [www.youtube.com/wehotv](http://www.youtube.com/wehotv)
- Spectrum Channel 10 (in West Hollywood)
- AT&T U-verse Channel 99 (in Southern California)
- SmartTV Apps: AndroidTV; AppleTV; FireTV; and Roku

For notifications by email, subscribe to the City's E-Notifications at [www.weho.org/email](http://www.weho.org/email). Visit the City's event and meetings calendar at [www.weho.org/calendar](http://www.weho.org/calendar) and news archive at [www.weho.org/news](http://www.weho.org/news). To receive urgent updates to your phone by text and to your email, text your ZIP code to 888-777.

For updates and information about the current numbers of COVID-19 cases in the United States and in Los Angeles County, the spread of the virus, severity, treatments, precautions, and other important public health information in multiple languages, please visit websites for:

- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health)  
[www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

For reporters and members of the media seeking additional information about COVID-19 in Los Angeles County, please contact the LA County Department of Public Health Chief Communications Officer, Carl A. Kemp, at (213) 240-8144 or [media@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:media@ph.lacounty.gov).

For reporters and members of the media seeking additional information about the City of West Hollywood, please contact the City of West Hollywood's Public Information Officer, Sheri A. Lunn, at (323) 848-6391 or [slunn@weho.org](mailto:slunn@weho.org).

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