



THE CITY OF  
**SAN FERNANDO**

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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Nick Kimball  
(818) 898-1202

DATE: March 13, 2020

### **THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO SUSPENDS SENIOR, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

SAN FERNANDO, CA – Effective immediately, the City of San Fernando is suspending senior, recreation, and community programs as a precautionary measure to protect residents, especially the more vulnerable senior population, from further spread of COVID-19, commonly known as novel coronavirus.

The programs below are suspended at least through April 3, 2020:

- Neighborhood and Business Watch meetings.
- Tree planting events on March 14, 2020 and March 28, 2020.
- All adult and youth sports, including soccer, basketball, softball, and baseball (games may be rescheduled to the end of the season).
- Open gym.
- National Junior Tennis Program Tennis.
- Senior club dances (refunds available) and general membership meetings.
- Facility rentals (refunds available).
- All other fitness, exercise, art, cultural art, and youth programs.

ADMINISTRATION  
DEPARTMENT

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OFFICE OF THE  
CITY MANAGER  
(818) 898-1202

PERSONNEL DIVISION  
(818) 898-1220

WWW.SFCITY.ORG

Please call (818) 898-1290 check the availability or status of any City facility or program.

The decision to suspend these programs comes in response to a health advisory issued by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) earlier this week recommending organizations across the state consider cancelling all non-essential large gatherings of more than 250 people, smaller gatherings that do not allow

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social distancing of six feet per person, and gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk of severe illness, such as seniors and those with pre-existing health conditions.

According to the CDPH, “the timely implementation of aggressive strategies that create social distance and reduce close contact of people not regularly together, including limiting gatherings, has proven effective in prior pandemics at delaying rates of transmission and reducing illness and death.”

The City encourages residents to take the following steps to keep themselves and their family healthy:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer (but handwashing is better).
- When coughing/sneezing, cover your mouth with your sleeve or a tissue and throw the tissue away immediately.
- Clean doorknobs and frequently touched surfaces.
- Practice social distancing (masks are limited value unless you are sick or a health worker). Limit close contact and avoid other social norms, such as shaking hands, hugs and other close contact in the foreseeable future. Elbow bumps are a good alternative.
- Have provisions that will last a few days (water, food, essential hygiene supplies, etc.).
- Get immunized against the flu. This will relieve what could be a highly impacted healthcare system.
- Stay home when you’re sick. Don’t wait until you are VERY sick.

Please refer to the City’s website, [www.sfcity.org](http://www.sfcity.org), and social media for additional information and future updates.

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