



April 6, 2020

Dear Irvine Residents, Businesses and Employees,

I wanted to provide an update on COVID-19.

The City of Irvine is following the guidelines of the OC Health Care Agency and the California Department of Public Health to go beyond containment of COVID-19 and focus on mitigation. The goal is to protect the most vulnerable populations by minimizing their exposure to the virus.

Here is a link to FAQ on the “Stay-at-Home” Order in effect throughout California to protect public health: <https://covid19.ca.gov/stay-home-except-for-essential-needs/#faq>

If you are showing symptoms such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath, and work in an essential function – you should self-isolate until you have symptom improvement and fever is gone for at least 72 hours; self-isolation should be at least 7 days. If you are showing symptoms of illness and are already self-quarantining, try to avoid going outside until you are free of symptoms for 72 hours.

Currently, the City has set up a specific page designated for COVID-19 updates at cityofirvine.org including establishing a hotline for non-medical related questions at 949-724-8250.

Most of us are already self-quarantining at home and only leaving the house for essential services such as grocery shopping or visiting the pharmacy. Some of us are reporting to work in support of essential functions such as medical staff, emergency personnel and grocery store or pharmacy employees.

All of us have a responsibility to do our part by maintaining 6’ of distance from others and washing hands frequently with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water. The virus can spread not only from coughing or sneezing but also through droplets when we speak. That’s why we are being advised to cover our mouths, not with the N95 surgical masks needed for medical personnel, but with non-medical grade masks, homemade cloth masks or scarves.

Thank you for doing your part.

Farrah Khan