



# BAKERSFIELD

THE SOUND OF *Something Better*

## MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Thursday, March 19, 2020**

**CONTACT: Joe Conroy**  
**Public Information Officer**  
**(661) 326-3074**  
[JConroy@bakersfieldcity.us](mailto:JConroy@bakersfieldcity.us)

### **CITY DECLARES LOCAL EMERGENCY, LIMITS STAFFING TO ESSENTIAL ONLY**

---

Effective immediately, the City of Bakersfield has declared a local emergency in response to the COVID-19 health crisis following Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order (N-33-20) which includes a statewide stay-at-home order to all Californians.

City Manager Christian Clegg issued the declaration Thursday, March 19. The declaration must next be ratified by the City Council, which is expected to vote on it at the March 25 meeting.

The City encourages compliance with the Governor's stay-at-home order.

As a result of the emergency declaration, the City will limit staffing to those who provide essential services only. City buildings housing essential services will remain open at this time, although some services may not be available on-site. The City asks members of the public who have business to conduct with the City do so over the phone, via email or online if possible. If your business can wait, please do so.

It is important to note that this declaration will not impact essential services such as Bakersfield Police and Fire Departments, as well as water, sewer and trash services. *(See below list of services that will not be impacted)*

The City is providing updates on the health crisis on its COVID-19 webpage, found here: [www.bakersfieldcity.us/covid19](http://www.bakersfieldcity.us/covid19).

Public health is of paramount concern for the City of Bakersfield and the City has already implemented significant measures to limit the possible spread of COVID-19.

Those precautionary measures – including the cancelation or postponing of nonessential events and gatherings – will remain in effect until at least Tuesday, April 14.

City Manager's Office  
1600 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301  
661-326-3751 FAX: 661-324-1850

City Staff continues working closely with the Kern County Department of Public Health, the Centers for Disease Control, Kern County and the Office of Governor Newsom, receiving daily updates.

**Services with no impacts**

- The March 25 City Council Meeting is planned to take place as originally scheduled with an abbreviated agenda.
  - In-person public comments will still be accepted at the meeting; however, the public is encouraged to submit public comments for that meeting via the City Clerk's Office at [city\\_clerk@bakersfieldcity.us](mailto:city_clerk@bakersfieldcity.us).
- Police response
- Fire response
- Water
- Wastewater
- Solid Waste
- Streets
- Rapid Response Teams
- Fleet support to health and safety services
- Technology support to health and safety services

###