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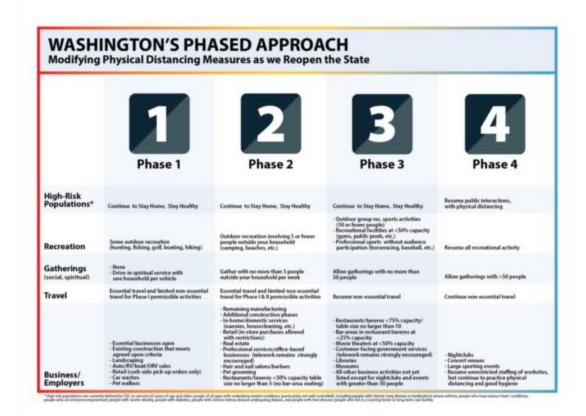
Edmonds City Bulletin



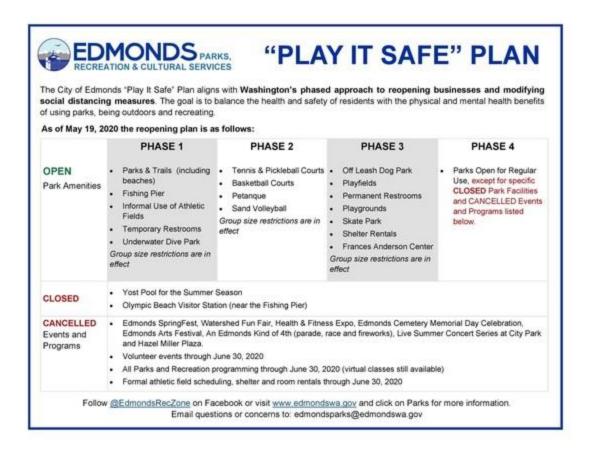
Your source for information about Edmonds City Government. To see the bulletin in a different language, use Google Translate link above. To see past bulletins, go to the city page. To provide comments and ask questions, contact us.

COVID-19 News

Two graphics that explain where we are with COVID-19. The Governor's Phased Opening plan and the Edmonds Parks "Play it Safe" plan.



If this is too hard to see, you can see it online here.



More information

This has been a difficult spring. Like you, we look forward to Phase 2 reopening of Edmonds. Like you, we are awaiting information from the Governor's office.

Last week, Mayor Mike Nelson held a <u>virtual Town Hall</u> livestreamed on Facebook and TV 21 and 39 to share what city teams are doing as we prepare to reopen. It runs 38 minutes. We will host our next Town Hall when we have new information to share. Watch for alerts in this bulletin or via our local media, My Edmonds News and the Edmonds Beacon.

This week, Mayor Nelson shared in a wider perspective.



General safety guidance

Wear masks when we can't stay six feet apart. We may not have symptoms, but we can be carriers. Wearing a mask is the best way to protect our most vulnerable populations. We hosted a #maskedmonds campaign and these were our favorites.

Local businesses

We are supporting our local businesses to help them reopen in this new normal.

- The City allocated up to \$100,000 from city savings to provide \$1,000 grants to businesses that need help pivoting to a new normal. So far more than 50 businesses, have taken advantage of this opportunity. Grants are still available so take a look. It's an opportunity to help two Edmonds businesses at the same time.
- We're connecting local business owners to suppliers so they can buy bulk quantities of hand sanitizer and other safety supplies.
- We provided a survey to residents to learn what they expect in a retail
 establishment or a restaurant to feel safe. So far, more than 1500 people
 responded. Take the survey while it is still open! We will share this
 information with business owners.
- City staff will connect with local businesses over the next couple of weeks to help them understand how to implement the Phase 2 guidelines so they can reopen with confidence.

Last week, <u>Snohomish County announced another grant opportunity for local businesses</u>. They already received more applications than they can manage. But it's a reminder to stay on top of opportunities. We are creating a new business web page and will put information on it as soon as we receive it.

Rumor has it...

That Edmonds is providing help with utility bills. Fact: Edmonds is waiving late fees.

Help local businesses stay in business

The COVID-19 closures have hit small local businesses exceptionally hard. True to Edmonds form, dedicated residents, business leaders, city leaders, and Myedmondsnews.com put their heads and resources together to brainstorm solutions. In addition to connecting business leaders to federal and state loans



and grants, the group created several websites to make information more accessible and make supporting local businesses easier.

- The <u>LoveEdmonds.com</u> site lists restaurants, stores and services that are either open for take-out, delivery or selling gift cards to be used at a later date. Any Edmonds business can submit a request to be on this site.
- The <u>keepedmondsstrong.com</u> website includes local businesses and links to other resources for business owners and the community.
- The <u>Edmonds Chamber of Commerce</u> links to detailed information about federal loans and grants.
- <u>EdmondsLocalvore</u> is boxing up survival kits from your favorite local stores.

Our senior population

Our senior population, especially those in the 65 long-term care facilities, are most vulnerable. Parks staff, who are currently working from home, now regularly call these long-term facilities to see what they need and how the city can help.

Our Sno-Isle Library system also makes calls to folks with library cards to see how they're holding up. They have made 5,000 calls since this began. Thank you!

The Federal CARES Act money

Edmonds was allocated \$1.2 million and we are exploring the best ways to use those funds for our community, including such things as: reimbursements for city expenditures directly related to the COVID-19 emergency response, and direct support to residents and businesses. Mayor and staff will present a proposal for Council approval soon.

Parks, Yost, the Dog Park, and summer events

This has been a trying time for park lovers. Our parks won't return to mostly normal until Phase 3. In Phase 3, the dog park opens, playfields and playgrounds reopen with 50 or fewer group size limits in effect. Yost Pool will not open this summer due to the inability to hire, train and provide lifeguards and aquatic staff to safely operate the facility

Most summer events like the July 4th parade, the Arts Festival, and the summer concert series at City Park are cancelled. All Parks and Recreation classes and programs scheduled through June 30 are cancelled. Visit the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts website at www.edmondswa.gov or follow @EdmondsRecZone on Facebook to see what new summer programs are available

COVID-19 testing

Testing locations have been difficult to consistently find. Your best resource is the <u>Snohomish County Health District</u> website which posts drive-through test site locations and appointments. You can always contact your doctor if you have COVID-19 symptoms.



Permitting streamlined

Many government organizations have fast-tracked online transactions to make it easier for the public to do business when they can't conduct business in-person.

Edmonds is no exception. We debuted <u>MyBuildingPermit.com</u> last week to make it easier to get Edmonds permits online.

Other news



Main Street open for new kind of business

We will likely open Main Street in downtown Edmonds between 3rd and 6th Avenues on a Saturday in June to dine outdoors. We are working with local restaurants to use streets and sidewalks for dining and walking. We have been thinking about this for a while and now seems like a good time to give it a try. It is a pilot

project. If successful, the concept could be extended to future dates.

Sunset still car-free for now

A portion of Sunset Avenue remains pedestrian only for a few more weeks to give residents space to walk. The change came at the beginning of the COVID closures when residents had few places to get out and exercise.

We'd like to open more residential streets up to pedestrian-only but so far, it has been difficult to find the right street. Please drop us a note if you have an idea



GREAT LAWN

Civic Park

Some disappointing news last week. We opened the bids for our \$8 million Civic Park Capital Improvement project and the lowest bid was 25% over our estimate. Given the current financial constraints and the potential for a better bid environment in the future, we will delay moving forward with this project for now.

Dayton Street improvements and the 2020 paving

If you haven't been to Downtown Edmonds lately, you may have missed the big paving operation on 5th between Dayton Avenue and Main Street. Crews reworked their Dayton Street Improvements project timeline to get to this section before Phase 2 reopening to give business owners a little boost. Look at that beautiful new street!

May 15 also ushered in paving season in Edmonds. This summer we will pave 3 ½ miles of streets. Crews are also using Kevlar fibers in the mix to make the road stronger and last longer.



Our awesome crews put together a very detailed schedule so you know what streets to avoid.



WSF traffic changes

State Route 104 between Dayton and Pine has changed. WSDOT/WSF says that the two right-hand holding lanes - one lane and one overflow lane used only on the weekends - will now be two permanent holding lanes 7 days a week.

Until WSDOT completes work at this intersection, drivers will not be able to turn right onto Dayton from SR 104 (bypassing ferry traffic in the two right lanes).

And finally...

Lightening the load this month was the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services program which hosted a most creative toilet paper roll contest. Here are the winners.

And speaking of our fantastic Parks and Recreation Department, they have been busy planning many virtual activities for our youngest residents. <u>Check them out.</u>

TOILET PAPER TUBE ART CONTEST WINNERS

5 & UNDER



1st: Lucy "Girl Scout Daisy"



2nd: Olivia "Dragon"



3rd: Josh "Spaceship"

Like this bulletin?

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Got a question or comment? All feedback welcome.