



Thursday, March 26, 2020

Gold Mountain Community Services District Response to COVID-19

To our Gold Mountain Community Service District Customers,

Nothing is more important to us than the health of our employees and the community we serve. We hope this message finds you well and safe. With the increased restrictions placed on all Californians and businesses related to COVID-19, the Gold Mountain Community Services District (GMCS D), has enacted an Emergency Response Plan to protect our employees, residents and the commercial entities we serve. We'd like to share some specifics of our Plan that may impact the way you connect with us and interact with district staff. Our Plan mirrors California Executive Order N-29-20, The Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1970 (OSHA) and health authorities, including the CDC.

Customer Impacts:

- The GMCS D office located at 150 Pacific Street #8 in Portola, has been closed to walk in service until further notice. We encourage customers to communicate with us by email at info.gmcsd@gmail.com or by phone at 530-832-5945.
- GMCS D will evaluate the need to hold board meetings and some could be cancelled. GMCS D board meetings will be held under emergency provisions as outlined in Executive Order N-29-20. The emergency procedures are specific to the Brown Act, which governs how Special Districts like GMCS D must conduct meetings. Unless otherwise communicated, as defined in the Executive Order, GMCS D will hold virtual board meetings until further notice. Our virtual meeting provider will allow both virtual log-ons or call ins to provide for public participation. We will include log-in/call-in information in future meeting announcements.
- The district's new website, which is now live, will be much more interactive for its customers. Information will be easily accessible, including communications related to COVID-19. The website will become an excellent resource to obtain information related to meetings and other announcements. Add the new URL to your favorites, <https://gmcsd.specialdistrict.org/>

District and Staff Impacts:

The CSD is classified as "critical infrastructure" and CSD staff are considered mission essential positions in the Water and Wastewater Sector. By the Governor's directive, essential employees are exempt from the stay-home directives and "have a special responsibility to maintain their normal work schedule". To support district staff as they continue to work, an escalating Emergency Response Plan for the district has been deployed. The Plan is designed to preserve the safety and health of staff and the greater community as provided in OSHA Guidance in Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19.

**P.O. Box 5, Clio, CA 96106 ~ 530-832-5945 ~ fax: 530-832-4591
email: Info.gmcsd@gmail.com ~ <https://gmcsd.specialdistrict.org/>**



Two major components of the Plan include:

- Precautionary Measures to Reduce the Spread of Illness in the Workplace
- Tiered Plan for Maintaining District Operations

Based on the district's Plan, these are the initial measures we have implemented:

- Adherence to all directives for good sanitation and social distancing. In limited cases, our field/distribution staff, as critically necessary positions, may need to interface directly with vendors, engineers and other staff. Safety and precaution are paramount in these situations. District management is aware of when and where these situations may occur.
- Review of all Department of Water Resources guidance regarding domestic water supplies and sewer operations has been completed to ensure we are compliant with COVID-19 specifications.
- Continuance of critical infrastructure upgrades and repairs while modifying our procedures when practical.
- Closure of district office to walk in traffic.
- Cancellation of non-critical meetings. Unless an emergency issue dictates, meetings will be conducted virtually.
- Authorization of approved staff to work from home to complete CSD work requirements. With recent IT upgrades, the district now has the flexibility it needs to run district business remotely.

We are all in this together and together, we will get through this crisis. We will continue to keep you informed as we become aware of additional action we need to implement to keep you and our staff safe.

We sincerely appreciate you as our customer and neighbor.

Cary Curtis
Gold Mountain Community Services District
Board President
530-832-9745

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