



## LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

Dear South San Francisco residents and businesses owners,

The health and well-being of our community remains of paramount importance to the City. Thank you for your patience and support as new information about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is continuously being shared by San Mateo County Health.

In response to the San Mateo County Health Department's [recent guidance to cancel or postpone large events](#) in an effort to limit the spread of COVID-19 within the County, the City is postponing, cancelling, or modifying several events and programs from **now until March 31, 2020**. In addition, the City is encouraging all community members to keep our community safe by preventing the spread of respiratory viruses including COVID-19 by staying home if sick, use hygiene best practices including washing your hands, calling your health practitioner before going to the hospital if you have COVID-19 symptoms, and other healthy lifestyle approaches. The City is continuing its work to maintain staffing levels and provide essential services through thoughtful planning for several impact scenarios. The City has already implemented several operational changes to support first responders and safeguard our community from COVID-19 risks.

### **Informing the Community on the Latest Local Developments**

The leading agency focused on public health and responding to the COVID-19 virus is the San Mateo County Health Department. As of Thursday, March 11, there are 15 confirmed Coronavirus cases San Mateo County.

Residents with non-medical, non-emergency questions about the coronavirus can call 2-1-1 or text 211211 at any time, day or night. 2-1-1 is a confidential service available in 180 languages.

### **About Social Distancing**

To reduce the spread of COVID-19, all of us, especially vulnerable populations, have been encouraged to practice **social distancing** by the Centers for Disease Control, San Mateo County Health Department, and other authorities.

In addition to social distancing, health officials have recommended a number of steps for individuals and households at this time, many of which can be found at the website of [Centers for Disease Control](#):

- Wash hands frequently
- Stay home when ill
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your face
- Prepare for supply chain disruptions by stocking up on medications and other critically needed items

### **Cancelling or Postponing Events**

The City's event and program cancellations and postponements approach includes evaluating events now through March 31, 2020. With the COVID-19 situation evolving worldwide, the City may expand the timeframe of its cancellation approach at any time.

The City follows recommendations issued by the San Mateo County Department of Public Health. [www.smchealth.org/coronavirus](http://www.smchealth.org/coronavirus).

The following City events and programs are cancelled or postponed\*:

- Senior Health Fair; Friday, March 13
- Heartsaver/Pediatric First Aid CPR class; Saturday, March 14
- Holiday Cookie Packaging; March 16
- Downtown Clean Up Blitz; Saturday, March 21
- Police Badge and Swearing In Ceremony; Tuesday, March 24
- Youth in Government; April 1, 8 and 15
- Cultural Arts Commission Youth Art Show; April 3-4
- Easter Egg Hunt; April 4
- "Every 15 Minutes" with South San Francisco High School, April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>

*\*As of March 11, 2020, and subject to change at any time.*

### LIBRARY

*Our Library programs, classes, and events are cancelled or postponed through Tuesday, March 31;* we plan to extend this date as we receive additional information and guidance from the San Mateo County Health Department. These cancellations include storytimes, author and museum presentations, MakerSpace programs, computer basics classes, the annual Prom Dress Giveaway and Makeover Program, Book Club meetings, and health/fitness presentations. Some programs currently presented on a one-on-one basis such as VITA free tax assistance and Tech Drop-in assistance may be provided on a limited, distance-learning basis. For current information, please call (650) 829-3860 for general library programs and services and (650) 829-3871 for Project Read and Community Learning Center programs and services. For now, the Library will remain open during regular hours.

### PARKS AND RECREATION

*Effective immediately (unless otherwise noted) through Sunday, April 5*

#### Aquatics

**Cancelled:** All drop-in programs, classes, and SSF Aquatics Club practices. Orange Pool is closed to the public. (Effective Thursday, March 12)

**Open:** None

#### Childcare

**Cancelled:**

- Spring Camp, March 23 - 27, at the Joseph A. Fernekes Building
- Police Youth Academy, starting March 17
- Full of Fun Night, March 25

**Open:**

- Summer Camp Registration, March 14 starting at 7 a.m. (See *Summer Camp Registration Update* below for information about staggered arrival times by lottery number.)
- Preschool programs at Little Steps, Siebecker, and Westborough
- Before and After School Recreation Programs at Buri Buri, Monte Verde, Ponderosa, Spruce Elementary Schools
- R.E.A.L. After School Programs at Martin and Los Cerritos Elementary Schools

#### Classes

**Cancelled:** All drop-in programs and classes (Effective Thursday, March 12).

**Open:** None

## Rentals

**Cancelled:** The City strongly recommends that all private rentals in City facilities, picnic areas, and sports fields be cancelled.

**Open:** None

## Seniors

### **Cancelled:**

- 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Senior Health & Fitness Fair, March 13
- St. Patrick's Day Lunch at Magnolia Center, March 26
- Adult Day Care (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor at Magnolia Center)
- All drop-in programs at the Magnolia Center and the Municipal Services Building
- Senior Volunteer Luncheon, April 17 - *Postponed*
- Magnolia Center (except for AARP Tax Program)

**Open:** AARP Tax Preparation Program (by appointment only - NO WALK-INS)

## Sports

### **Cancelled:**

- Adult Sports
- Middle School Sports
- RAPP Basketball
- Open Gym and Fitness Room at Terrabay Gymnasium and Recreation Center
- Terrabay Gymnasium and Recreation Center will be closed to the public.

**Open:** None

## **Summer Camp Registration Update**

Summer Camp Registration will still occur on Saturday, March 14, beginning at 7:00 a.m. However, the registration process is modified to include staggered arrival times, which have been provided to registered families. Walk-in registrations are welcome beginning at 12:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please call the Childcare Administrative Office at (650) 875-6900. For more information about Summer Camp or to download the registration forms, go to [www.ssf.net/childcare](http://www.ssf.net/childcare).

Please make sure you or your representative bring the following items so that we can process your registration as quickly as possible:

- Your completed application(s);
- Initialed policy form; and
- Payment in the form of cash, check, or credit card.

To receive the latest updates about recreation programs, you can:

- Visit [www.ssf.net/rec](http://www.ssf.net/rec). We will post information about changes to recreation programs on our website.
- Connect with us via social media

The City's event calendar is being updated to reflect cancelled or postponed events as needed. Please refer to the City calendar on our website, [www.ssf.net](http://www.ssf.net).

## **Reliable Resources**

County officials recommend residents rely on official channels from news and information about COVID-19 and efforts to contain its spread.

Residents should check with the South San Francisco Unified School District about schools, not social media posts from unaccredited websites, for instance. The

following provide reliable and trusted information:

**San Mateo County Health**

<https://www.smchealth.org/coronavirus>

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

<https://www.cdc.gov>

**South San Francisco Unified School District**

<https://www.ssfusd.org>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard A. Garbarino". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Richard Garbarino  
Mayor

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See what's happening on our social sites:

