

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) Briefing from City of Ashland  
Emergency Management Organization  
Saturday, April 11th, 2020**

- [Jackson County](#) now has 41 test confirmed cases (up 2 since Monday) of COVID19, six hospitalizations, and no deaths thus far. [Oregon](#) now has 1,371 cases (up 50 on Friday) and 48 deaths (up 4 on Friday).
- Ashland Fire & Rescue continues to transport people with COVID-like symptoms and. Policies are in place to prevent and deal with potential exposures on all medical calls.
- Regular communication with County EOC is taking place. They issue a daily email with updates for anyone who'd like to get it, also [available on their website](#).
- Regular communications with Jackson County Public Health, regional fire, EMS, and law enforcement is taking place. First responder safety protocols are in place.
- Continuity of operations plans are in place for all essential city services (public safety, public works). Dept heads have executed work at home options for all employees who don't have to be in the office.
- Kelly Madding has been coordinating with OHRA, Jobs with Justice, Rep. Pam Marsh, Jackson County, United Way and others on homeless resources. City is contributing money or staffing to the County-wide effort to bring food to people on the Greenway and established car camping sites. With Kelly gone, City staff will still be participating and supporting this effort.
- Neighbor-helping-neighbor guidance for safely assisting others is on the City's [coronavirus site](#). Parks and Rec staff along with Councilor Graham and volunteers have successfully implemented the [Adopt a Neighbor](#) program and full roll out has taken place with well over 200 volunteers signed up and nearly 40 people asking for help at last count. Postcard flyers are now in nearly all stores to recruit more of those in need of help. Thanks to Councilor Graham and Isleen Glatt of Parks and Rec for a job well done.
- Ongoing communications with Chamber of Commerce and businesses is being led by Adam Hanks. Progress continues to be made in getting financial support for local business. Further relief is being advocated for by the City, Chamber, SOU and many organizations to our congressional delegation for further relief funding from the state and federal level.
- Adam is working with other cities to figure out what relief will trickle down to cities from the federal aid package. City is accumulating and tracking specific expenses directly related to corona response. Indications are the City will be reimbursed for these expenses.
- Free AFN connection for students and teachers is available in Ashland and being utilized so far by at least 27 families.
- Parks closures under the new Executive Order have been signed throughout the community, now including Oak Knoll Golf Course access (except trails) and limits on trail traffic in other areas of the forest trails.



- Car camping locations have been identified in the community. This program is a partnership with OHRA staff with coordinated hygiene stations, trash pickup, and supervision.
- APD delivered posters a week ago to grocery stores outlining best practices for shoppers. Thanks to Bill Molnar's staff in Community Development for printing and laminating them and PD for delivery.

## Public Information Update

### Current PIO tasks

- Note: Social distancing is now called "physical distancing". The WHO started this to emphasize keeping social connections while staying physically separated.
- Continue to monitor community information and social media for needs and feedback.
- Asante is accepting PPE donations at [SOU Lithia Pavilion](#). This has been added to the City's site and shared on Facebook.
- Continuing to post reminders about distancing and health. Latest was information about the new mask and glove recommendations from CDC, OHA, and the County.
- City added a sub-page about [public mask recommendations](#). Please read! Thanks to Elizabeth Taylor for working on it.
- The section of the City's corona page [www.ashland.or.us/coronavirus](http://www.ashland.or.us/coronavirus) called "[City Government Updates](#)" has been revamped. We added a page describing the [ongoing support](#) for the unhoused population.
- [Story in the Tidings](#) today about success of the Adopt a Neighbor program that City has supported.

Please see [www.ashland.or.us/coronavirus](http://www.ashland.or.us/coronavirus) for what we currently have posted and all the news releases.

