



COUNTY OF VENTURA COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Mike Powers
County Executive Officer

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County of Ventura Government buildings closing to public effective July 20 *Services offered virtually, by phone and by appointment*

Ventura, Calif - The County of Ventura will close all of its buildings to the public, with the exception of County health clinics, the Ventura County Sheriff's Office, Ventura County Fire Department, and other public safety services, effective Monday, July 20, to align with the Governor's order to limit indoor operations as a precautionary measure to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Members of the public will continue to be able to access most County services online, by phone and by appointment.

"Our departments will continue to provide essential services to our residents, but it is prudent to limit public access to our facilities as the number of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations continue to increase. We will continue to monitor the situation and urge the public to follow the guidance of the Public Health Department," said County Executive Officer Mike Powers.

County hospitals and clinics will remain open. All first response and public safety services will continue; and home visits and other services to vulnerable populations will also continue to be provided. The Airports will remain open. County libraries will continue to offer outside pick up. Marriage licenses will continue to be issued via appointment. County staff will continue to report to work at their assigned work sites and provide services for the duration of the closure.

"Virtual methods have been long-standing and efficient ways to conduct business with the County. Returning to virtual means is one way the County is helping to slow the spread of COVID-19. Our County family is dedicated to providing high-quality services in a safe manner for our employees, community members and visitors," added Powers.

All County phone lines will be staffed. Community members can call the County at 805-654-5000 and are encouraged to access services online at www.ventura.org.

Meetings of the Board of Supervisors will operate virtually. Public participation is available by telephone, video and in writing. More information at: <https://www.ventura.org/board-of-supervisors/agendas-documents-and-broadcasts/>.

"We urgently need to slow the spread of this disease in order to keep our hospitals and emergency rooms from becoming overwhelmed," said Public Health Officer Doctor Robert Levin. "Community members are urged to wear masks, social distance and to stay home as much as possible. Our collective efforts during this pandemic can literally save the lives of our loved ones and most vulnerable residents."

www.venturacountyrecovers.org