



City Manager's

COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

Monday, May 11, 2020

City Manager Dee Williams-Ridley provided this update on the City of Berkeley's COVID-19 response to the City Council. The reports, which are issued most weekdays, can be viewed at cityofberkeley.info/covid19-city-manager-updates.

Now is the time to prepare for wildfire season

Even as we are still in the early stages of this unprecedented crisis, we are mindful that other threats loom: summer wildfire season and potential power shut-offs.

Mountain snowpack is significantly below average this year, which intensifies drought conditions and increases wildfire threat.

The main actions we encouraged through [our community message](#) are:

- Sign up for emergency notifications via [AC Alert](#)
- [Pack a go bag](#): in a wildfire, we may need to evacuate in minutes. Everyone in the household should have a go bag with things they need to safely evacuate. In the era of COVID-19, this includes face coverings and hand sanitizer. Those with go bags already packed should check them and replace any expired items, like food or batteries.
- [Practice evacuating](#): everyone in an at-risk area should identify evacuation routes and rehearse using them with their household. We recommend planning for two routes by foot and two routes by car.

We encourage community members in at-risk areas to download and print out our [wildfire evacuation checklist](#) and [power shutoff safety tips flyer](#) to have for reference in an emergency.

Western States Pact asking for \$1 trillion in federal support for states and cities

Governor Newsom reported that the five western states (California, Nevada, Colorado, Washington, and Oregon) have [sent a letter to the federal government](#) requesting \$1 trillion in direct and flexible relief to states and local governments to make up for COVID-19 revenue losses.



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Resources

CDC Resource: COVID-19 household checklist

We all need to plan ahead to protect ourselves and our family for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic. The CDC has created a [checklist to help families prepare](#). It covers steps everyone should take to stay informed, prepare for possible illness, preventative measures, and symptoms to watch for.

Guide to participating in virtual Council meetings

As part of the City's broader efforts to maintain and expand access during the COVID-19 pandemic, we have created many ways for community members to engage with Council meetings remotely. Detailed instructions on how to [watch, listen, and participate in virtual Council meetings](#) are available on the City's website.