

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

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County Issues Order for Residents to Stay at Home

(Barber County) – To protect the community and prevent further spread of COVID-19, the Board of Barber County Commissioners and Local Health Officer, Dr. R. W. (Pete) Meador, on Friday announced an order directing residents to stay at home excluding "essential businesses" and specific activities. The order will remain in effect for 30 days beginning at 12:01 a.m., Monday, March 30, 2020.

"The City is supportive of the actions taken by Barber County to do what we can to help curb the spread of the virus," said Mayor Anthony Farrar. "Delivering services and caring for our residents remains our highest priority. We're sorry for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate the public's understanding and patience during this extraordinary time."

Following are examples of essential businesses and services:

- Health care
- Grocery stores
- Pharmacies
- Government services
- Infrastructure projects
- Child care
- Drive-thru/delivery/ carry-out services from restaurants
- Educational institutions (K-12 schools, colleges, and universities)
- Banks and financial institutions

Following are examples of activities still allowed under the order including:

- Work relating to public health and public safety.
- Businesses offering "essential products and services."
- Activities or tasks related to health and safety (i.e., doctor visits).
- Trips to obtain food and necessary supplies.
- Trips to care for and transport family members.
- Outdoor activities as long as social distancing requirements are met.

For a copy of the order with a complete list of all essential businesses, services, and activities that will remain open, please visit www.medicinelodge.kansas.gov/coronavirus. You may also contact Barber County directly if you have questions related to the order.

CITY OF MEDICINE LODGE MARCH 27, 2020

The Medicine Lodge Police Department plans to focus on education rather than enforcement of this order. The MLPD is asking residents with non-emergency requests or records information to call Barber County Dispatch at 620.886.5678.

All City buildings will be closed to the public for the duration of the order. Essential City services will continue, and City Staff will be available to take calls and emails during customary business hours.

City parks will remain open at this time, but City staff will not be opening restrooms. Residents using parks are encouraged to keep a safe distance from others and to refrain from using parks if they are sick. The order discourages the use of the playground apparatus.

For questions or concerns about any city-related closures or changes, please call 620.886.3908 or email city@medicinelodge.ks.gov.

For the latest information about COVID-19, please visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov or the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) webpage at www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus.

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