

From The Office of Town Administrator Orlando Pacheco

COVID-19

Effective immediately, after guidance from discussions with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, The Town of Lancaster will be implementing a “social distancing” policy as a result of the recent State of Emergency declared by both the federal government and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a pre-cautionary measure to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, commonly referred to as the coronavirus.

We are urging residents and employees to conduct business where possible. Given the recent emergency changes to the Open Meeting Law, public attendance at meetings will be purposely limited with provisions to be made to participate remotely. Town facilities may have limited hours or public availability but will be open to respond to residents by appointment only.

The Town will be cancelling all programming for the next 2 weeks to limit any possible spread of the virus given the risk and incubation period. Additional resources will be utilized to disinfect public facilities that have high traffic use.

The Town has declared a state of emergency which will facilitate the use of municipal resources, and leverage any other anticipated resources to make sure public health and safety responders can adequately assist those in need.

Those residents, who will participate in larger gatherings in the near future, please evaluate any and all possible risks to exposure before determining any level of participation.

The Centers for Disease Control and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health have resources available for your review at:

<https://www.cdc.gov> and/or <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/department-of-public-health>

Business impacted by the recent state of emergency should contact the Office of the Town Administrator; resources may be available for those who have suffered a loss of income as a result of the recent actions.

Most importantly, if you or anyone you know appears to be exhibiting symptoms of the virus, please quarantine yourself or that individual and call 911. Measures to limit your interactions with other individuals are of utmost importance.