



Date: March 17, 2020

To: McLeod County Citizens and Stakeholders

From: Sheila Murphy, Administrator

RE: Non-Essential Public Services Update

Today, March 17, 2020, at 4:30 pm, McLeod County will suspend public-facing non-essential services through March 30, 2020, at 4:30 pm. We will use this time as a planning period to respond to the public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

McLeod County offices providing public-facing services will be closed to in-person public contact. Employees will still attend work, providing services via phone and electronic means when possible; required essential services will be provided in-person. The Law Enforcement Center and Sheriff's Office window will remain open (yes, the McLeod County Jail is still open). Court Services and Court Administration will remain open at this time. Other McLeod County facility buildings are closed to the public, including the McLeod County Fairgrounds. If you have an event at the McLeod County Fairgrounds between March 17 and March 30, you will be contacted regarding cancellation.

According to our Public Health team and the Minnesota Department of Health, there are currently no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in McLeod County. We are taking this measure to help lessen the rate of infection. A difficult but necessary decision to protect the public and our employees. Please watch our website for a "Frequently Asked Questions" section which will be updated tomorrow, March 18, 2020; this will address which services are available at this time. This gives our Departments the time to plan and respond to operations during this public health emergency.

We appreciate the patience and support of the public. Take care to practice social distancing, give a call to high-risk people to let them know you care, and continue good handwashing practices.

All updates will be posted on our McLeod County website (www.co.mcleod.mn.us), on our McLeod County Facebook page, given to local media and cities.