



March 17, 2020

RE: Novel coronavirus/COVID-19

To the Residents of Kamas Valley:

We are writing to provide you with an update regarding the current coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic impacting our nation, state, county and this great valley. As your Mayors of Oakley, Kamas and Francis, we are unified in our efforts to ensure the residents of our cities are provided the best up-to-date information and resources possible regarding this evolving challenge. We are participating in daily briefings with the Governor, Lt. Governor, State and Summit County health officials, county leadership, municipal leaders, law enforcement and other state, county and local government entities regarding efforts to curtail or stop the spread of the virus, and the public's critical role in those efforts.

Regarding testing for COVID-19, the state continues to ramp up its testing capabilities which increase significantly every day. As of today, several locations in the state, including Intermountain Park City Hospital, have set up drive-through stations to conduct sampling of individuals who have concerns about carrying the novel coronavirus as a result of recent social contacts or being a high-risk individual based upon health condition or age. If you have reason to be concerned, you may have a sample taken. Please note that currently the ability to take samples far exceeds the ability to test the samples taken. Accordingly, samples will be tested based upon the health professionals' judgment pursuant to your personal risk factors. Not all samples taken will necessarily be tested. As the testing capabilities increase, so will our understanding of the virus and its spread in our communities. This will enable the health professionals and state and federal epidemiologists to continue to tailor the recommended response to the virus for the best outcome.

We are all being asked to make sacrifices to win the battle against this virus. Those sacrifices are real, and for many they cause significant financial and other hardship for at least the short term. We have all learned the new term "social distancing," referring to keeping a space of at least 6 ft. between ourselves and others. Social distancing is the main driving factor behind closing schools, restricting various businesses' activities pursuant to Summit County's Public Health Order, asking people to work from home when possible, and eliminating gatherings of people. Social distancing slows the growth and spread of the virus and reduces the potential for overwhelming our state's healthcare system.

As we continue to face these challenges, there is good news. According to our County health officials, our efforts to create social distancing appear to be working and positively impacting the spread of the virus in our county. This does not mean we are out of the woods; that will come with time. Nonetheless, as we continue our social distancing efforts, the Governor and Lt. Governor strongly encourage us to live normal lives as much as possible. They emphasize that our State and National Parks in Utah are still open for business and are a great place to escape or spend spring break. We should still go hiking, play golf, go on walks, ride horses and bikes, play tennis, and any other activities that bring us happiness, while continuing to utilize proper social distancing measures.

The Governor and Lt. Governor also reminded us that we are an industrious people. We should continue to work, from home if possible, but if not, practice social distancing and other appropriate safety measures for your job and go to work. If your job has been temporarily eliminated, there are employers who have ramped up hiring for temp positions as a result of our nation's efforts to address the virus. Our cities' offices will continue to stay open to conduct business as usual, with some modifications in procedures to facilitate social distancing. City Council and Planning Commission meetings will continue as scheduled, with modifications as appropriate.

The Governor emphasized that our nation's supply chain is in full gear and continues to operate. Trucks will continue to deliver, and stores will restock with the things we need to buy. Clean water will continue to flow from our faucets and electricity will continue to power our lights at home. We are all asked to buy what we need for our families and businesses, without hoarding or panic purchasing food, paper products, and cleaning supplies. There is more than enough of everything that everyone needs or wants to buy if we will all go back to our normal purchasing patterns. We strongly encourage you to shop in local grocery and convenience stores and buy take-out or curbside delivered meals from our local restaurants. Their food is still great!

- Businesses with questions about compliance with the county's Public Health Order should call (435)333-0050 for assistance.
- For text message updates regarding the state's coronavirus mitigation efforts, text "COVID19SC" to 888777.
- For health questions regarding coronavirus, call the State hotline at (800)456-7707.

As your Mayors, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve you during these challenging times. If we can help you with anything, please let us know. Keep your spirits high, work hard, be kind and generous to your family and neighbors, don't hoard, and don't worry too much. As the Persian adage states, "This too shall pass." We will be stronger and better as people as a result.

Sincerely,



Wade Woolstenhulme
Oakley City Mayor



Matt McCormick
Kamas City Mayor



Byron Ames
Francis City Mayor