

# Message from the City of Costa Mesa

The employees and leadership teams of the City of Costa Mesa extend a huge thank you to the members of the community who have been so vigilant in doing their part to stem the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Here are some tips going forward:

Our business community is being especially hard hit by this crisis. We encourage residents to support them by shopping local and ordering take-out food and delivery services from local restaurants.

As a reminder, the governor's and the county's orders call for all businesses where social distancing cannot be achieved, including places like massage parlors and salons, to be closed.

While City facilities are closed, we realize that business still needs to be conducted. City department webpages have been updated to provide residents with the ability to conduct business in an online environment. Click the following link to learn [more.](https://www.costamesaca.gov/city-hall/city-departments)  
<https://www.costamesaca.gov/city-hall/city-departments>

If you have questions about COVID-19 and what the city is doing, we have a hotline number where members of the community can leave us a message. Please call the hotline at 714-754-5156.

Also, the Orange County District Attorney's Office has issued a warning about price gouging and that business owners who unjustifiably raise prices during this crisis can face criminal charges.

Residents who suspect a business is price gouging as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are encouraged to file a report to District Attorney's Consumer Protection Unit using this form: <http://orangecountyda.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?>

Finally, on Tuesday March 17, the City conducted the first City Council meeting under the temporarily relaxed Brown Act rules that do not require a majority of Council members to be in attendance. Four Council members and some staff participated in the meeting by telephone and members of the public were given opportunities to ask questions of the council, either in person or via email. Seating in the Council Chambers was also modified to allow for proper social distancing between those in attendance. The model will be a useful one for future meetings.

#BeAwareBePrepared #FlattenTheCurve