



Press Release

PR20-033

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COVID-19 UPDATE:

**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY REPORTS POSITIVE CASES BY CITY;
CITY OF CHINO HILLS CLOSES DOG PARK, SKATE PARK;
PARKING LOTS AT GRAND AVENUE AND COMMUNITY PARKS; ALL CITY TRAILS;
BASKETBALL, VOLLEYBALL, AND TENNIS COURTS AT ALL CITY PARKS**

Chino Hills, CA – The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health released data regarding positive coronavirus cases, by city, on March 30. As of March 31, the City of Chino Hills has eight positive tests. The City of Chino has six positive tests. City of Yucaipa has the highest number of confirmed cases with 53 positive tests. Montclair was among seven cities with one positive case.

“Public Health has been advising the public to expect there are cases in every community, and that was borne out by the data,” said Mayor Art Bennett. “We will get through this together, but everybody must do their part to limit interactions with other people, even family and friends; staying home; and practicing social distancing.”

According to City Manager Benjamin Montgomery, in recognition of the coronavirus threat, the City has taken progressive steps to mitigate the spread of the virus in Chino Hills starting on March 13. He said “the City took additional actions during the past five days in response to escalating directives from state and county agencies, and in recognition of reports from the community that individuals were disregarding social distancing directives.”

“Signage closing the playgrounds and warning the public about the possible spread of the virus from contaminated surfaces was posted on March 20. Additional signage and yellow caution tape was added on March 26 to further emphasize the closure,” said Mr. Montgomery. “On Friday March 27, the Skate Park was closed. The dog park at Vila Borba Park was closed Saturday morning, March 28. And, chain link fencing was installed on Monday, March 30 to secure the skate park.”

Mr. Montgomery said the City will begin closing tennis, volleyball, and basketball courts,

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and the parking lots at Grand Avenue and Community Parks on Tuesday, March 31. All City trails will be closed as of April 1. City crews will post signs at City trailheads and at all secondary access points to the trails.

“The City recognizes outdoor recreation is allowed during the “stay-at-home” order but it must be done safely and in compliance with social distancing directives. The City added antibacterial soap to park restrooms so people could keep up their efforts to wash their hands while they are out and about,” said Mr. Montgomery.

According to Mr. Montgomery, “Although, the City is proud to have 44 parks and 48 miles of trails, at this time we must close trails, parking lots, and areas where too many people are gathering to reduce the spread of COVID-19. In recognition of similar actions taken by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and neighboring communities, we felt now was the time to take additional action. With so many people flocking to our trail system that they are not effectively social distancing, we must take this next step.” A surge in COVID-19 cases is expected in the coming weeks, which will become evident as more tests become available. “To protect the public health, we need the community to heed the call to social distance and stay home,” said Mr. Montgomery.

The City has gathered and posted useful information and resources regarding COVID-19 on their website at www.chinohills.org/Coronavirus. In addition, the public may send questions to ChinoHillsCovid19@chinohills.org or call (909) 364-2610.

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