



## Manatee County Government Issues COVID-19 Updates

### Manatee County, FL

Manatee County Government is responding to COVID-19. In an effort to keep County residents and visitors safe and aware regarding the status of the virus, Manatee County Government will issue this update every day, seven days per week.

County Administrator Cheri Coryea, Jacob Saur Director of Public Safety and staff are in constant communication with the Governor's Office, FL Association of County Managers, Florida Division of Emergency Management and County Health Officer, Dr. Jennifer Bencie with the FL Dept. of Health, and local healthcare CEOs as the State of Florida continues to monitor and respond to the threat of COVID-19:

### Administrator Actions:

Today, Cheri Coryea convened or attended the following meetings:

- County Department Directors;
- FL Division of Emergency Management Emergency Operations Center Update;
- Manatee County Emergency Operations Center Daily Briefing; and
- Area County Administrators.

### Manatee County Government Actions Responding to COVID-19

- Coordinating with the Florida Department of Health (DOH) to establish additional drive-thru testing April 29-May 1.

### Additional Manatee County Government actions (by department) related to COVID-19:

#### Building & Development Services Department (ESF-5)

- Majority of staff working remotely – otherwise operations are normal and volume of work is high.
- Permitting - Normal operations ongoing (e.g., building permit review, inspections, etc.). March was busiest month in County's history with over 3,097 permits processed;
- Code Enforcement – normal operations with additional duties as follows:
- Monitoring of beach and boat ramp closings
- Staffing homeless hygiene sites
- Operated COVID-19 violation hotline
- Director serves as liaison with beach cities;
- Weekly Conference Calls with building industry to address any issues.

#### Convention and Visitors Bureau

- Business recovery

- Industry outreach and survey
- Refrigerated storage for food supplies
- Homeless hygiene location
- Drive-through testing location
- Maintenance staff loaned to Property Management Dept. to assist with additional cleaning and maintenance work at other County facilities
- Coordination with Convention Center Hotel Project - Sheraton & 7<sup>th</sup> Ave road project in City

### **Financial Management Department (ESF-7, ESF-11)**

- Normal operations, but remote;
- Procurement – normal operations; assisting with PPE and related items purchasing;
- Budget FY 21 underway with additional work on budget forecasting for impacted funding sources;
- Financial leads coordination on future FEMA reimbursements;

### **Human Resources**

- Communications with HR liaisons related to staff concerns
- Launch of Families First Act County-wide (Public Safety staff excluded)
- Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL)
- Emergency Family Medical Leaved Act (EFMLA)
- Telemedicine
- LAMP Tele-assistance
- Qualifying events extended to 2021
- Overall County employee support during EOC activations

### **Information Technology**

- Radio shop – transitioning fire district vehicles to P25 radio
- Assisting with technical setup and management of BCC online meetings
- Assisting Property Management with IT infrastructure for Veteran’s Service building and temporary EMS Station at GT Bray
- Finalizing transitioning multiple departments and staff to online/remote work environment - over 650 staff are working remotely;
- Cyber-security efforts & monitoring stepped up due to remote work environment

### **Neighborhood Services (ESF-6)**

- Feeding work group – lead
- Homeless work group – lead
- Implemented homeless hygiene stations
- Child care work group – lead

- Emergency child care through Early Learning Coalition
- Alternate care sites workgroup

### **Parks & Natural Resources**

- Parks outside facilities open; CDC/COVID-19 signage placed around parks & preserves;
- Staff working on addressing long-standing maintenance issues with Property Management and assisting with Preserves staff in backlogged field maintenance work

### **Property Management (ESF-12)**

- Additional cleaning of County-managed government facilities
- Taking advantage of closed buildings and facilities for maintenance activities

### **Public Safety (Emergency Management Command Staff, ESF-8, ESF-17)**

- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is at Level 2 Activation;
- Daily County EOC, State Emergency Operations Center and Health Dept. coordination calls;
- Emergency Management/EOC- coordinating drive thru testing; State Incident Management Teams (IMT) teams;
- 311 – normal call volume
- 911 - normal call volume;
- EMS – normal call volume; working with FDOH with follow-up on patients transported
- Community Paramedicine - continues to respond to COVID-19 suspected patients thru the 911 system;
- Marine – assisting MSO and beach law enforcement with beach patrol
- Animal Services – coordinating with Property Management on additional cleaning and maintenance work with reduced numbers of animals in facility

### **Public Works (ESF-1)**

- Engineering – normal operations w/ remote working
- Field inspections – normal; assist with boat ramp open/closure with barricades; assist with Parks & NR barricades and signage;
- Fleet – normal
- Transit – normal operations other than beach routes cancelled; work with Financial Management on related CARES Act funding;
- Project Management – begin coordinating on recovery planning for economy and potential “shovel ready” federal grant infrastructure projects

### **Redevelopment & Economic Opportunity (ESF-18)**

- Business Recovery – lead
- Developed Business Recovery Manual / website

- Launched Recover Manatee webpage
- Re-employment assistance
- SBA Federal Loan
- SBDC Bridge Loan
- Housing assistance
- Responding to business community
- Liaison with Chambers and EDC
- Implementing CARES / HUD funding priorities
- Rental and mortgage assistance

### **Utilities Department (ESF-3)**

- Normal operations of water, sewer and solid waste divisions
- Working with closed businesses on changes to solid waste pickups
- Assisting FL Dept. Of Health with drive-thru test sites