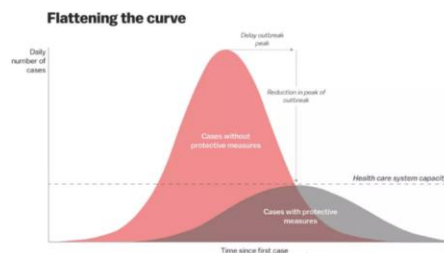


IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Desert Hot Springs Announces Operational Changes in Response to COVID-19

Friday, March 13, 2020: Effective Monday, March 16, 2020, the City of Desert Hot Springs will implement mitigation strategies to address the evolution of COVID-19 in our community. Slowing epidemics is critical, as it reduces stress on hospitals and health centers, which can only treat a certain number of patients at a time. As public sector officials and employees, we are responsible for contributing towards community mitigation efforts. The below CDC “Flattening the Curve” chart shows the positive impacts that can result from adopting protective measures.



Starting Monday, March 16, 2020, we are dividing the majority of City Staff into two groups. Each group will rotate weekly between working in the office at City Hall vs. working from home. We are taking these steps to mitigate exposure and ensure continuity of our City government during these unprecedented times.

Additionally, due to lower in-house staffing levels, we are limiting our lobby and front counter operations to the extent possible. We ask members of the community to not enter City Hall if they are ill or have been in contact with someone who has been ill. Folks exhibiting symptoms will be redirected to call (760) 329-6411 to schedule a call with a member of staff for assistance.

The near future will certainly be challenging for all of us. We are confident the Desert Hot Springs community and staff will rise to the occasion and act responsibly to keep City services operational while also taking reasonable steps to keep themselves and their community as healthy as possible.

For more information please contact Doria Wilms, Assistant City Manager and Public Information Officer at (760) 333-0518 or via email at dwilms@cityofdhs.org

###