



Chuck Brunello, Jr.  
Mayor/Safety Director

April 28, 2020

Dear Neighbor:

I would like to take a moment to share how our community is moving forward during this time of COVID-19 uncertainty. Over the last few weeks, we have all been asked to make many changes to our daily lives. While we know that change is not easy, it is something that we must do to keep friends, families, and ourselves safe. The purpose of this communication is to advise you of the policies and procedures that have been implemented or changed over the last several weeks in and around our City, and to provide you with the most up-to-date information as we continue to move forward.

### **City Hall**

On March 25, the decision was made to close City Hall to the public. This order will remain in place until May 26. However, we are continuing our daily operations with procedures in place to help keep our employees safe and to maintain the best service to our residents. I am very grateful to have such a dedicated group of essential employees. Along with the closure of our buildings, came the cancellation of all in-person meetings. Any Council or committee meeting deemed essential will be held via a ZOOM meeting online or by way of a conference call. All meeting information will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

The annual Memorial Day observance at the Peace Memorial has been cancelled; however, we are looking at alternative options for a recognition event. Information will be posted online once it is available.

### **Summer Recreation**

We are still accepting online registrations for all of our summer recreation programs. A decision will be made in the near future regarding any cancellations or abbreviated programs. Refunds will be issued as appropriate if programs are cancelled or shortened. No decision has been reached at this point about whether the community pool will be opened for any portion of the season. The tennis/pickle ball courts are currently closed.

### **Garbage and Recycling Collection/Shred Day**

Our rubbish contractor, Kimble has lifted the temporary restriction on the collection of items outside of the garbage totes and has resumed full collection service. However, they ask that you gradually place these items out over the next few weeks to lessen the impact on the overall volume. In addition, SimpleRecycling has temporarily suspended the orange bag collection of household goods. Updates will be posted on our website, when available, at [www.highlandhts.com](http://www.highlandhts.com).

Due to the cancellation of Shred Day on April 4, we have rescheduled an additional Shred Day for Sat. July 11 at the Service Dept. from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. As in the past, you simply drive up and Service Dept. employees will unload the items from your car for shredding on site.

### Spring Cleaning Drop-off

On Saturday, May 16 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. , we will be holding a Spring Cleaning Drop-off event. Residents may drop off large bulk items at the Service Dept. for disposal. This is only intended for large bulk items, not yard waste or normal garbage. This program is for residents only and persons dropping off items must show proof of residency.

### Meals on Wheels/Community Partnership on Aging

Recognizing the needs of our senior residents, the Meals on Wheels program is continuing to operate with the delivery of frozen meals in some cases. Please contact Judy Conklin at 440-554-3930 if you or someone you know needs this service.

All Community Partnership on Aging programs are cancelled until 6/1/20. However, they are providing frozen meals for adults 60+ on Mon., Wed. and Fri. These meals must be picked up at various distribution sites. To register for this program or for more information, call 216-650-4029.

### Local Restaurants

As you are aware, all restaurants and bars have been closed for dine-in service. Please continue to support our great dining establishments via carry-out options during this time.

### Construction Projects

Construction season is upon us and some of the 2020 budgeted projects have already begun, such as the Strumbly Dr. Program. Work taking place on Strumbly will be replacement of the water main, a road overlay, and new sidewalks. Other projects planned for this year include the repaving of Roy, Esther, and Renee Rds., miscellaneous concrete repairs on Alpha Dr., resurfacing of Brainard Rd., an upgrade of the Bishop/Wilson Mills intersection, and our annual sidewalk program. We will also be making many upgrades to our City Park. I remain optimistic that we will complete all of these projects during this construction season, despite the current COVID-19 situation.

As I have stated in previous communications, the safety of our residents remains a top priority and I appreciate everyone's cooperation and understanding during this difficult time. Please visit our website at [www.highlandhts.com](http://www.highlandhts.com) or our Facebook page for changes and updates as they become available. On occasion, we may send out Civic Ready notifications via text and email, or by phone if of an urgent nature. To make sure you receive these notifications, sign up on the city website by using the "Civic Ready" tab.

Additional information about the current COVID-19 situation is also available at [cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov); [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov); or [ccbh.net](http://ccbh.net) . The State of Ohio has also set up a hotline at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (427-5634).

For specific concerns, contact my office at 440-461-2440, ext. 145.

Be well,

  
Chuck Brunello, Jr.  
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