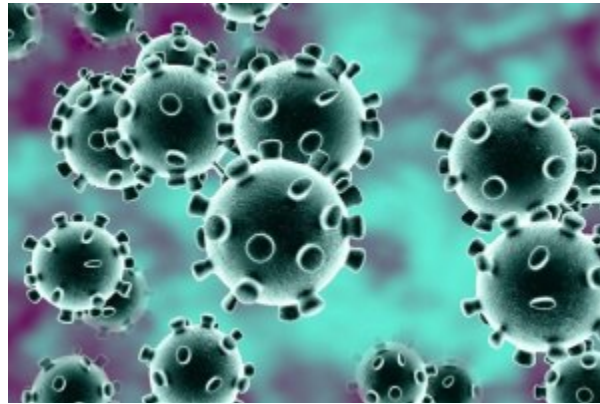




Mayor's Report March 2020

Corona Virus Update



With the Corona Virus (COVID-19) outbreak in nearby states and Oregon it's important we all stay up to date with the facts and try to prevent the illness from spreading. Here are simple things that can be done to stay healthy:

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after using the restroom, before you eat, and before you touch your face.
- Use hand sanitizers with at least 60-95% alcohol
- Avoid contact with people who are sick and stay at home when you're not feeling well to avoid spreading illness.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces where germs may reside.

According to the CDC the virus is spread person to person in close contact with each other via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. The droplets land on the noses and mouths of other people who then inhale them.

There is also a possibility of the virus spreading by touching a surface or object with the virus and then a person touching their mouth, nose or eyes, but this not thought to be the main method of spread.

I have been in touch with the other local mayors in the area and we are monitoring the situation and keeping each other informed. The county public health staff is actively working with CDC, OHA and other local stakeholders and hospitals to prepare for a possible outbreak in our area.

Here are some great informational links to help monitor the situation and get the facts:

[Oregon Health Authority OHA\) – COVID-19 webpage](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

www.merkley.senate.gov/coronavirus

<https://www.co.clatsop.or.us/publichealth/page/coronavirus-what-you-need-know>

Fire Station Update



As I mentioned at the last council meeting my hope is that we can get a fire station bond on a ballot sometime this year. As we progress in our due diligence process including property negotiations, finalizing costs, and looking at different bond scenarios we will continue to keep you updated. The good news about a possible bond is we can create a scenario where a property tax increase for the bond would be minimal and then after 5 years the increase could go down to zero as the city water bond comes off the books in 2025.

We will continue to progress and keep you posted on the next steps when we have relevant updates and are able to comment on continuing negotiations. And as always please thank your local volunteers that keep us all safe!

Gearhart Elementary School Property



Over the last month I have had some great conversations with folks who may be interested in purchasing the grade school property. While nothing is imminent and the conversations were more informal and exploratory, I have been very impressed with some of the ideas I've heard. Folks are wanting to do things that specifically benefit the community such as preserving park and community space while possibly addressing affordable housing. The city has received multiple calls from interested parties seeking information and I am anxious to see what happens next.

All the best,

Mayor Matty

March 5, 2020
by [Mayor Matty Brown](#)

<https://cityofgearhart.wordpress.com/2020/03/05/mayors-report-for-march-2020/>