



COVID-19 Closures and Service Adjustments

Office of the City Manager

March 22, 2021

Phased Re-Start of Activities.

The City is subject to the State's "[Roadmap to Recovery](#)" plan and Yakima Health District's public health orders. Under this framework, regions will gradually re-open based on progress against the pandemic:

Phase 1: *No indoor social gatherings with people outside your household; outdoor social gatherings are limited to 10 people outside your household. No indoor restaurant or bar services; outdoor dining is limited to 6 per table. Retail stores and indoor worship services are permitted at 25% capacity. Professional and personal services must work remotely or at 25% capacity. Strictly limited indoor fitness and entertainment activities are permitted.*

Phase 2: *Indoor social gatherings are limited to 5 people outside your household; outdoor social gatherings are limited to 15 people outside your household. Indoor restaurant or bar services are permitted at 25% capacity; outdoor dining is limited to 6 per table. Retail stores and indoor worship services are permitted at 25% capacity. Professional and personal services must work remotely or at 25% capacity. Indoor fitness and entertainment activities are permitted at 25% capacity.*

Phase 3: (CURRENTLY IN EFFECT FOR YAKIMA COUNTY**):** *Indoor social gatherings are limited to 5 people outside your household; outdoor social gatherings are limited to 15 people outside your household. Indoor restaurant or bar services are permitted at 50% capacity; outdoor dining is limited to 6 per table. Retail stores and indoor worship services are permitted at 50% capacity. Professional and personal services must work remotely or at 50% capacity. Indoor fitness and entertainment activities are permitted at 50% capacity. Check the [Roadmap](#) for further details.*

City Programs and Services that are OPEN or OPEN WITH CHANGES at this time.

- All essential City services are operating while observing public health protocols and the state's "[Miscellaneous Venues COVID-19 Requirements](#)." Some City employees are still working remotely.
- **Residents are still urged to conduct all routine business with the City by phone, online, or email as much as possible. Please continue to make all payments through Xpress pay online, by phone, or at our payment drop boxes. Payment by check, card, or money order is preferred.**
- The public lobby service counters at City Hall (Main Entrance & Planning) re-opened on March 1 with limited hours of 10:00 am - 3:00 pm (closed for lunch). Only two (2) persons are allowed in each lobby at a time to ensure proper physical distancing. No one may enter or stay in the lobbies without wearing a properly fitted face mask. City staff will provide masks if needed. Hand sanitizer will be available.
- The public lobby at the Law & Justice Center re-opened on March 1 for Court Services on Monday through Thursday from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm (closed for lunch). The Police customer service window is open only on Fridays from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm (closed for lunch). Only eight (8) persons are allowed in the lobby at a time to ensure physical distancing. No one may enter or stay in the lobbies without wearing a properly fitted face mask. City staff will provide masks if needed. Hand sanitizer will be available.
- City Council is meeting in an in-person and virtual hybrid model using the Community Center Gymnasium in South Hill Park to ensure adequate physical distancing. All in-person attendees should pre-register with the City Clerk so that the City can maintain contact information for 28 days. The number of persons in the audience is strictly limited based on the space available. No one may enter or stay in the gym without wearing a properly fitted face mask. City staff will provide masks if needed. Hand sanitizer will be available.
- Per state requirements, we will continue to stream City Council meetings online via the Zoom conferencing application to enable Council members, City staff, and residents to participate remotely.

- Advisory Board and Commission meetings are holding in-person/virtual hybrid meetings as such meetings are scheduled; some may continue meeting remotely only at the discretion of the Chair. Public health protocols as detailed above for in-person Council meetings are required.
- Police will process Concealed Pistol License (CPL) applications in-person on Fridays by appointment only. Residents should call 509-837-2120 in advance to schedule an appointment. Residents may also continue to submit CPL applications online.
- The City will not shut off or charge a late fee or reconnection fee for non-payment of City water or sewer utility services for the duration of Governor's Proclamation 20-23. Council has authorized the City Manager to temporarily extend administrative deadlines for payment of utility bills, license fees, and permit application fees, upon request due to hardship.
- City park grounds are open for individual and small group activities like walking, cycling, or running. However, park facilities like restrooms, sport courts, playground equipment, and shelters remain closed for the winter until May 1. Residents are advised that the City does not have the resources to sanitize park facilities after each use.
- The recycling station at South 4th and Lincoln is open. If the area is closed, it is because the station bins are already full awaiting the next scheduled pickup
- The Airport is open. It is unstaffed; signs urge pilots and visitors to adhere to social distancing.
- More information is available at www.ci.sunnyside.wa.us or at www.yvopenandsafe.com.

City Programs and Services that remain CLOSED at this time.

- We are currently making plans to recruit for our vacant Recreation Coordinator position, and we expect to resume recreation services in a modified form when the position is filled. The Community Center, the Senior Center, and all organized in-person group recreation activities are closed at this time.
- The Municipal Pool remains closed for winter; we are evaluating the feasibility of re-opening under the current public health restrictions and depending on when we can hire a Recreation Coordinator.
- The Police Department will not offer in-person jail visitation hours through Phase 3. Online visits through Visitel are still available: <http://www.visitel.us>
- Sunnyside Municipal Court has paused using its external drive-up Court window due to the colder weather.
- The City is not yet issuing permits for yard sales, and yard sales should not be occurring.

Mask Up to Open Up.

Per state and county health orders, residents must wear face masks at work, in all common areas indoors, and in public where you cannot keep 6 feet apart. Businesses must refuse entry or services to customers not wearing a face mask. Please help reduce further spread of COVID-19 by keeping at least 6 feet apart, washing your hands frequently, sanitizing commonly used surfaces often, limiting social gatherings, and staying home except for essential travel.

These steps significantly reduce the risks of infection. They are the best tools we have until safe and effective vaccines can be more widely distributed.

Thank you!