



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 20, 2020**

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**(661) 758-7215**

### **CITY OF WASCO LIMITS STAFFING TO ESSENTIAL ONLY IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AND GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER**

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Due to the recent cases of confirmed Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Kern County and Governor Newsom's Stay-at-Home Executive Order issued on 3-19-2020, The City of Wasco is taking the following precautionary measures to ensure the health and safety of our staff and residents:

Effective Monday, March 23, 2020, until further notice, all city offices which primarily provide customer service will continue to remain closed to the public and telephones will not be manned.

Details of alternative ways to conduct business with the city will be detailed along with notices of continued crucial services such as water, wastewater and sanitation will be posted to the city's website.

All Wasco residents are encouraged to stay actively engaged in monitoring the status of COVID-19 in Kern County and to heed the Governor's Stay-At-Home Order. Additionally, residents are reminded to practice good hand-washing hygiene and practice the recommended social-distancing, as recommended per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Kern County Public Health.

The City of Wasco also recognizes that toilet paper is limited in retail stores forcing some residents to resort to other products such as tissues, paper towels, baby wipes, flushable wipes, etc. The City advises that residents DO NOT flush these items down your toilet, throw them away in the trash. Flushing wipes, paper towels, and similar products down toilets will clog sewers and cause backups and overflows at wastewater treatment facilities, creating an additional public health risk in the midst of

the coronavirus pandemic. Even wipes labeled "flushable" will clog pipes and interfere with sewage collection and treatment in Wasco. The City's Wastewater Treatment Plant may get overwhelmed, residents may face In-home plumbing backups and blockages.

The City of Wasco is committed to keeping our residents informed with current information. Please visit the City's website: [www.ci.wasco.ca.us](http://www.ci.wasco.ca.us) for the latest information and links regarding COVID-19.

For further information and assistance, please email the City Clerk's Office at [cityclerk@ci.wasco.ca.us](mailto:cityclerk@ci.wasco.ca.us).