

March 16, 2020

The City of Benson is continuing to monitor the developments concerning the coronavirus (COVID-19). We are working with our partners at the Cochise County Department of Health and with local healthcare providers to keep our community informed and safe in regards to the Corona Virus (COVID-19). Currently we have no cases of the virus in Cochise County. As of March 16, 18 cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Arizona: eight in Maricopa County, five in Pinal County, and four in Pima County and one in Graham County. (For up-to-date information on Arizona cases, please click [here](#).) In areas where community spread of COVID-19 has been detected, there is likely a heightened level of risk.

As you may have heard, on Sunday Governor Ducey announced a statewide closure for schools. They will remain closed until March 27. We will continue to monitor for additional information on their status. You can watch the announcement [here](#).

Currently, there are no plans to postpone or cancel any events at this time. We want you to know that we are most conscious of current public health concerns and your safety is always paramount.

We recognize the gravity of the situation, and should circumstances change or need to change – whether based on a higher governmental decree or otherwise – we will examine all options necessary for the safety and well-being of our residents and the surrounding community.

We stand vigilant and encourage preparedness over panic; knowledge (and good hygiene!) is power.

*Toney D. King, Sr., Mayor*

*Vicki Vivian, City Manager*

- For the latest updates regarding the Corona Virus visit the CDC's Coronavirus Disease 2019 website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>
- For information specifically to Arizona, please visit <https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-home>
- Additionally, County Public Health has established a hotline, available Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm, for questions from the public: (833) 670-5786 or visit the County website at <https://www.cochise.az.gov/health-and-social-services/covid-19-info-0>