



City of Hermosa Beach
COVID-19 Daily Update
6 p.m. March 25, 2020

Local Updates

- **Hermosa Closes Beach and Strand to Protect Public Health:** The City of Hermosa Beach announced today that it is closing its beach and the Strand at 6 a.m. on Saturday, March 28, to protect public health and prevent a repetition of last weekend, when groups of people congregated on the beach and Strand. These gatherings increased the risk of spreading the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) because people were unable to maintain the required distance of at least six feet from non-household members. Public health experts also warned that the risk of COVID-19 transmission increases exponentially in crowds and the virus can remain on surfaces, such as benches and handrails, for up to 72 hours. The City will also close the Downtown Parking Structure to discourage people traveling to the beach and the Strand. To implement the closures, City Staff will be erecting signs and barriers at access points to the beach and Strand over the next two days, and the Hermosa Beach Police Department will be patrolling the beach to enforce the closures. The City is hoping for voluntary compliance, and police officers will initially be informing the public about the closures. But police officers will start writing citations and imposing fines, if needed, to keep the public safe. These closures apply to everyone because the beach belongs to all Californians, and the police cannot effectively enforce limited access for just local residents or select groups to use the beach and Strand. Read the [Beach Closure Press Release](#) for more information.
- **COVID-19 Diagnosis in Hermosa Beach:** City Manager Suja Lowenthal reported that there is at least one confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 among Hermosa Beach residents. The City has no further information about the person. However, given the scarcity of COVID-19 tests and the fact that some people with COVID-19 have no symptoms, public health experts have said all residents should follow the recommended precautions of frequent handwashing, staying at home and maintaining a minimum of 6 feet distance from non-household members when in public. The Los Angeles County Public Health Department has recommended assuming that many people are infected and has noted that community transmission is increasingly the source of infections. The Department also informed Hermosa Beach officials late yesterday that it is including Hermosa Beach diagnosis numbers in the Manhattan Beach statistics reported daily, so the City will be providing the combined numbers in today's and future daily updates.
- **Council Approves Temporary Eviction and Foreclosure Moratorium:** Hermosa Beach City Council has approved a [temporary eviction moratorium](#) for commercial and residential tenants who cannot currently pay their rents because of the COVID-19 emergency. The ordinance the Council adopted also provides for a temporary foreclosure moratorium for homeowners and commercial property owners who cannot make their mortgage payments because of the COVID-19 emergency. In approving the moratorium, the Council determined the moratoriums were necessary because evicting people from their homes and places of business, while the state is under a Stay at Home

order, could further endanger public health. When the emergency ends, all rental and mortgage payments will still be owed. The ordinance provides 6 months of protection from eviction during which tenants and property owners can repay their past rent and mortgage payments. The moratorium goes into effect immediately.

- **Updated List of Available Local Businesses:** Please see the updated [Hermosa Beach Chamber of Commerce's Business Listing](#) for new information on which local restaurants are open and provide food for take-out and delivery, as well as news on other business operations in Hermosa Beach.
- **COVID-19 Fraud Alert:** Los Angeles County issued a [Scam Warning](#) about fraudulent activity designed to prey on the vulnerable in the midst of the COVID-19 public health crisis. Among the scams are malicious websites and malware and targeted email schemes and suspicious links.

State & Federal Updates

- **Senate Reaches Agreement on \$2 Trillion Stimulus Package:** The U.S. Senate reached an agreement on a bipartisan [\\$2 Trillion Economic Stimulus Package](#) designed to help ease the financial burden of the COVID-19 pandemic and provide relief for American workers and businesses. The measure still must be approved by both the House and Senate. The proposed legislation includes direct payments of \$1,200 to most individuals making up to \$75,000, or \$2,400 for couples making up to \$150,000, expanded unemployment benefits and small business loans, as well as aid for local governments and industries affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Banks Give Californians 90-Day Mortgage Moratorium:** Governor Gavin Newsom announced in a briefing and [Tweet](#) today that over 200 major banks including Wells Fargo, CitiBank, JPMorgan Chase and US Bank have agreed to give California homeowners a 90-day grace period for mortgage payments to assist with financial difficulties caused by COVID-19.
- **Census Bureau Adjusts Operations Due to COVID-19:** Due to the coronavirus outbreak, the U.S. Census Bureau has adjusted its decennial outreach to protect public health and ensure a complete and accurate count of all communities. This adjustment includes delaying the deadline to respond from July 31 to August 14. For additional information, please see the [2020 Census Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19 Fact Sheet](#).

Latest Facts & Figures

Area	Reported COVID-19 Diagnoses	Reported Deaths Attributed to COVID-19	Source
United States	54,453	737	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html
California	2,535	53	https://covid19.ca.gov/
LA County	799	13	http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/phcommon/public/media/mediapubdetail.cfm?unit=media&ou=ph&prog=media&cur=cur&prid=2282&row=25&start=1
Manhattan & Hermosa Beach	17	N/A*	http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/phcommon/public/media/mediapubdetail.cfm?unit=media&ou=ph&prog=media&cur=cur&prid=2282&row=25&start=1

**L.A. County Department of Public Health is only providing the hometown of patients diagnosed with COVID-19. It is not providing hometown information on deaths. It also has combined Hermosa Beach and Manhattan Beach in its reporting. Despite City officials' requests, the Department is not providing a breakdown of the diagnoses in each city.*

Information Sources

The City has limited public access to City Offices and the Community Center. It also has canceled major events and most City-sponsored programs.

Please sign up for Hermosa Beach [eNotifications](#), [public safety alerts](#) or follow the City on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

City of Hermosa Beach	https://www.hermosabeach.gov/
City of Hermosa Beach Coronavirus Information & Updates	https://www.hermosabeach.gov/coronavirus
Hermosa Beach Chamber of Commerce	https://www.hbchamber.net/
Hermosa Beach City School District	https://www.hbcasd.org/
LA County Department of Health	www.cdph.ca.gov
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	www.cdc.gov
LA County Fire Department	https://www.fire.lacounty.gov/
LA County Health and Human Services	Call 2-1-1
Beach Cities Health District	Call 310-374-3426, ext. 256 https://www.bchd.org/coronavirus