



City of Falls City

299 Mill St • Falls City, Oregon • 97344
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FALLS CITY COVID-19 SITUATIONAL REPORT MAY 20, 2020

INTRODUCTION

The City Council met on 5/19/20 to address the City's current and future measures responding to the COVID-19 emergency. It is noteworthy that many of the measures in place are dictated by higher authorities and cannot be waived or circumvented by the City Council until such a time as the Governor's executive orders expire, become void, or are scaled back.

Please read on for a summary of the city's current measures, some expectations as to when they may be relaxed, and a list of resources regarding the phased reopening framework from the state and reopening application from Polk County. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we all endeavor to get back to life as we know it, while ensuring our health and that of our neighbors is as protected as it can be.

Current Measures & Associated Rules	Options	Council Decision	Explanation
City Hall Business Conducted through the foyer only [EO 20-12]	May be cancelled by the City Council at any time, but social distancing standards will still be required.	Leave restriction in place until social distancing requirements are lifted (likely Phase III)	Business is functioning fine at the window. Opening City Hall now would require substantial investments in barriers and cleaning (time/supplies). Best to wait for now and avoid costs.
Utility Fees and Shut-Offs Waived [Res 07-2019]	May be cancelled by the City Council at any time.	Fees and shut-offs to restart after 5/25-6/25 billing cycle.	The longer this program runs causes concern for those that fall behind due to a lack of incentive to pay (late fee, shut-off) and have a huge bill to overcome when things get back to normal.
Park structures closed, green spaces open with signage [EO 20-12]	Automatically cancelled with Phase I, Council may extend as it sees fit.	All park structures to reopen in conjunction with Polk County entering Phase 1. Signage will be posted to encourage social distancing.	Under Executive Order 20-12, the City Council can't open the park structures until allowed by the Governor. Phase I mitigates the relevant section of the executive order and allows parks and structures to reopen subject to social distancing.



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City owned facilities closed to non-essential uses [Res 08-2020] [EO 20-12]	Set to expire in conjunction with State's emergency declaration. Council may lift the restriction entirely when Polk County enters Phase I.	City owned facilities will remain closed, except to essential uses and City Council meetings, until social distancing requirements are lifted (likely Phase III).	Each use of a public facility carries excessive costs under the COVID-19 regime. These include costs of enforcing social distancing (staff time), cost of cleaning (staff time), and costs of related supplies. It also places staff at risk.
Falls City Emergency Declaration [Res 09-2020]	Expired 4/28/2020.	Re-Declare Emergency if the City sees an emergent situation or potential financial hardship forthcoming.	The City does not anticipate additional COVID-19 related costs at this time.
Falls City Events Cancelled through June 2020 [Res 09-2020] [EO 20-12]	Polk County's phase dictates what events can be allowed.	Post July 1 events be evaluated individually based on restrictions at the time, and staff capacity. Scheduling spring Clean and Garage Sale for last weekend in June... more to come.	This is a fluid situation that changes as restrictions change. Planning has been hampered, but some events may be feasible. This is basically a case-by-case basis for now.

RELATED RESOURCES

1. Governor Brown's Executive Orders
 - a. <https://www.oregon.gov/gov/admin/pages/executive-orders.aspx>
2. Phased Reopening Plan and Information
 - a. <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-covid-19>
3. Polk County Phased Reopening Framework
 - a. <https://www.co.polk.or.us/boc/polk-county-covid-19-phased-re-opening>