

April 20, 2020

Dear Community Members,

As of the writing of this update, according to Fresno County, Coalinga has maintained its status of "four or fewer" confirmed cases of COVID-19. This means that we have one to four cases as of this morning, though the county numbers have not updated since Saturday so things may change as the day progresses.

We will not know the exact number of confirmed cases until there are five or more.

For specific information regarding the number of confirmed cases by community, please refer to the Fresno County Department of Public Health's website at https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/departments/public-health/covid-19?fbclid=IwAR1RiIy6hbmKqHyqoiNjCw7Mv8DNfbf_BqMI5iQ9P3DsPOm0_vst_wWKvIQ and click Cases by Community Chart.

As a reminder, this chart is based on physical addresses not City boundaries.

It is very important that you take the necessary precautionary measures to stay safe and healthy and help reduce the spread of the virus.

You may have noticed some temporary electronic billboard signs placed throughout the City last week with an important message; "Stop the spread. Stay home." While the message is simple, the point is, that in order to help stop the spread, residents should only be leaving their homes for essential business. If it is not essential, it can wait.

We know that COVID-19 is present within our community. There is no need to risk exposure to perform non-essential business. Remember, there are several cases of individuals testing positive for COVID-19 and being asymptomatic, meaning, they have no symptoms. Therefore, in order to best protect yourselves and your families, you should assume that every person you come into contact with is positive for COVID-19.

Last week, the Mayor Pro Tem, City Manager, City Department Heads, and I met, telephonically, first, with Assemblyman Arambula and then with Congressman Cox, to discuss our proclaimed local emergency and to obtain firsthand information on the state and federal efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19.

We emphasized the importance of reopening our local hospital and the need for funding for our local small businesses. We explained the demographics and dynamics of our community and how we are often left out of state and federal programs because of our size. Both Assemblyman Arambula and Congressman Cox heard our pleas and stated they would continue to monitor the situation and work with us to find solutions to our issues. Congressman Cox stated he will take a more hands-on approach in assisting with our hospital reopening.

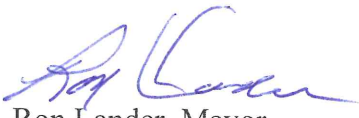
Many of you have the same common question; when will the economy reopen? At this point, there is no definitive date provided by either our state or federal officials. The situation remains fluid and things are constantly shifting.

City Hall remains closed to the public. We are continuing to provide essential services and City staff remains available to assist the community. Members of the public may contact City staff by calling (559) 935-1533 or by emailing info@coalinga.com.

I encourage all community members to like the official City of Coalinga Facebook page as we continue to post one-way communication informing the community on important matters.

Please continue to practice social distancing, wash your hands regularly and keep from touching your face, only leave your homes to conduct essential business, support our local businesses as best as you can during these tough economic times, and, if you are able, please look out for one another and help your neighbors, especially those who may need additional assistance during this pandemic.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron Lander".

Ron Lander, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marissa Trejo".

Marissa Trejo, City Manager