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***A MESSAGE FROM  
MAYOR SCHAVE***

***April 22, 2020***

I wanted to take some time to update you all on what has been happening in your City.

As we continue to practice Social Distancing, following the Governor's Order to Stay Home, and recommendations from our Public Health Agencies, I believe Aberdeen

is seeing the positive effects of these actions. The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases are increasing at a slow rate here in Grays Harbor. This has helped our local first responders and our health workers to provide much needed care for those affected. Thank you to everyone for working together to flatten the curve.

I continue to work with staff, the City Council and local citizens on a daily basis. Most of my meetings are either on the phone or online. We are fortunate to have technology that allows the City to continue to work. We held our first call-in City Council Meeting. It went well and we were able to conduct the business of the City while still complying with the Open Public Meetings Act.

All City departments are working at almost full staff levels. We have been creative in our scheduling and procedures to provide a safe work environment following public health recommendations. Our public works crews and parks maintenance crews are busy now that the weather has improved. The Building Department and Code Enforcement work remotely, online, and in the office. Flexible office scheduling allows for minimal in-person contact between staff. Essential services like Legal, Human Resources, Police, Fire, and Finance are all fully staffed.

I am working with the Department Heads to limit spending, look at cost saving measures, and grant opportunities. We are planning early in anticipation of a downturn in the economy. By starting to look at budgets now, we hope to decrease the fiscal impact once this public health emergency ends.



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Our Fire Chief continues to work on the Incident Management Team. Much of the work done by the City in response to COVID-19 is being tracked for submission to FEMA for reimbursement.

There are many types of financial assistance available for both individuals and businesses. Information for those programs can be found at [Governor.wa.gov](http://Governor.wa.gov). Information on what's available at the City of Aberdeen can be found on the COVID-19 Alert page at [www.aberdeenwa.gov](http://www.aberdeenwa.gov), small business support can be found at <https://graysharbor.org/business/covid-19-resources/>. I hope that people take advantage of these programs to help them during this difficult time.

For information on the novel coronavirus COVID-19 please visit the Grays Harbor County Public Health page at <http://www.healthygh.org/covid19>. This page has good information that can answer most questions an individual may have.

The City is also working on a “Return to Normal Business Plan”. As the Governor’s restrictions are lifted, we want to be prepared to serve our citizens both efficiently and safely.

While these are challenging times, I know that we will pull through this together, as a community.

Sincerely,  
*Mayor Schave*



*While access to most City buildings may be closed, you can still reach staff by phone or email. Please visit our website for contact information.*

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