FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 11, 2020
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Senior Center Programs and Community Services Department Special Events Are Cancelled or Postponed Until the end of March Due to Novel Coronavirus

(Malibu, CA) – The City of Malibu has cancelled or postponed Senior Center Programs and Community Services Department Special Events until the end of March, 2020 in an abundance of caution to protect the health and safety of the public and seniors who are considered a group that is vulnerable to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Malibu’s number one priority is ensuring the public safety of the community. The City understands the inconvenience and disruption that this may cause. The City is following the guidance of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LADPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in order to slow the spread and reduce the impact of the Novel Coronavirus on the community.

According to the CDC, the populations who are at higher risk of getting very sick from the virus include seniors and older adults, and people who have serious chronic medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes and lung disease. See the CDC’s recommendations at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html.

The Dial-A-Ride program will continue to operate, and Dial-A-Ride vehicles are regularly disinfected.

Senior Center staff will still be available to assist any seniors in the community that need assistance. For assistance, call the Senior Center at 310-456-2489 ext. 357.

The following programs and events will be cancelled or postponed during the month of March:

3/13/20  Gold Hunt Special Event - Canceled
3/20/20  City Hall Art Exhibition Opening - Canceled
3/22/20  Cars and Coffee - Canceled
3/25/20  St. Patrick’s Day Potluck - Canceled
3/25/20  Relax Through Coloring - Canceled
3/26/20  Excursion to LA Arboretum - Canceled
3/27/20  Financial Roundtable - Canceled
3/27/20  Spring Spectacular - Postponed
3/28/20  Art to Wellness - Canceled
3/28/20  Call to the Wall - Poetry Summit - Postponed
3/29/20  Youth Commission Zuma Beach Clean-Up - Postponed

The City will re-assess programs and events for April over the next few weeks.

The CDC recommends that those at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19 should:

- Stock up on medications and supplies;
- Take everyday precautions to keep space between yourself and others;
- When you go out in public, keep away from others who are sick, limit close contact and wash your hands often;
- Avoid crowds as much as possible;
- Avoid cruise travel and non-essential air travel;
- If there is a COVID-19 outbreak in your community, stay home as much as possible to further reduce your risk of being exposed. It could last for a long time.

Background
In response to several new cases of COVID-19 with known origins related to travel, not community transmission, Los Angeles County declared a Level Three local emergency on March 4, 2020. This Level Three local emergency enables local agencies with their own public health departments to transition into full preparedness mode and makes them eligible for state and federal funding for any increase in COVID-19 cases and possible community spread.

The City, in standard preparation for any emergency or disaster, has plans in place for continuity of government services and business operations. The City is also currently developing a Pandemic Response Plan that will address continuity of operations for businesses, and City government services in case a serious outbreak of corona (or other communicable disease) occurs locally.

The public is urged to follow these hygiene and containment measures:

- Avoid / stay away from sick people;
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or alcohol-based hand cleaner;
- Keep hands away from eyes, nose and mouth;
- Disinfect public counters, desks, common areas, phones, keyboards and other high-touch surfaces;
- Use disinfectant wipes identified for use against Influenza A&B and Coronaviruses;
- If you have symptoms (fever, cough, difficulty breathing) stay home and call a doctor;
- Remain home until you have spoken with your doctor or health provider and are cleared to return to work; and
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and throw away the tissue.

For updates and information about the coronavirus situation in the United States and in Los Angeles County, severity, treatments, precautions, and other important public health information in multiple languages, please visit LADPH at http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus and the CDC at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.

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