

A PROCLAMATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF  
EMERGENCY SERVICES CLOSING CITY OF  
BURBANK PARKS FROM 12:01 A.M. ON APRIL 11,  
2020 TO SUNRISE ON APRIL 13, 2020 TO PREVENT  
THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

The Director of Emergency Services of the City of Burbank does hereby find:

1. On March 13, 2020, a local emergency was declared in the City of Burbank due to COVID-19 pandemic.
2. On March 17, 2020, the City Council by Resolution No. 20-29,135 confirmed the existence of the local emergency and confirmed the powers of the Director of Emergency Services to take all acts pursuant to Burbank Municipal Code Section 5-2-106 to protect life and property.
3. On March 19, 2020, the Los Angeles County Public Health Officer issued an Order entitled Safer at Home for Control of COVID-19 (Order). This Order encompassed rules for events and gathering, social distancing and closure of non-essential business and areas, as well as listing categories of essential businesses allowed to stay open under the Order.
4. On March 19, 2020, the Governor issued an executive order similar to the Safer at Home Order.
5. On March 21, 2020, the Los Angeles County Public Health Officer issued a revised Safer at Home for Control of COVID-19 Order which further restricted gatherings and changed categories of non-essential and essential businesses under the Order. The Order is effective through April 19, 2020.
6. The Order applies within the Los Angeles County Public Health jurisdiction, which is all unincorporated areas and cities within Los Angeles County except for the cities of Long Beach and Pasadena (who have their own public health officers.) The City of Burbank is subject to this Order.
7. The Order does not prohibit any individual or family from engaging in outdoor activities as an individual or family such as walking or biking, so long as persons practice social distancing. However, all private and public group events and gatherings are prohibited. Public gatherings, such as performances, parties, and worship services are prohibited.
8. As stated in the Order, it is intended to deter the spread of COVID-19 by preventing people from being in unnecessary close contact.
9. On Monday, April 6, 2020, LA County Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer urged residents to stay home this week, if at all possible, including skipping shopping unless essential and limiting time outdoors. She was quoted as saying:  
"We have some very difficult days ahead, and now is the time for all of us to redouble our physical distancing efforts," said Ferrer. "As we expect to see a significant increase in cases over the next few weeks, we are asking that everyone avoid leaving their homes for anything except the most urgent matters."

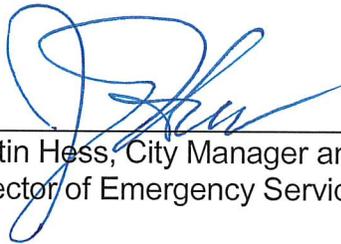
10. As of Wednesday, April 8, 2020, Los Angeles County has more than 7,000 reported COVID-19 cases and the City of Burbank has 79.
11. This Saturday and Sunday, April 11 and 12, 2020, is Easter weekend and the weather forecast shows mostly sunny on Saturday and partly cloudy on Sunday with day-time temperatures in the mid-to-high sixties.
12. In past years, all Burbank parks have been heavily used by families over Easter weekend for egg hunts, picnics and gatherings of family and friends. An estimated 2,500 people used the parks on the Saturday of Easter weekend and an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 people used the parks on Easter Sunday.
13. Given the current environment and the need for residents to stay home, and when out, to practice social distancing, Burbank cannot have multiple groups using the parks this weekend.
14. To keep City Parks open this weekend during this critical period of trying to stop, or at least slow, the spread of COVID-19, would be irresponsible.
15. Further, the L.A. County Order provides that the Order does not supersede any stricter limitation imposed by a local public entity within the Los Angeles Public Health Jurisdiction.
16. The rules and regulations being issued pursuant to the authority vested in the Director of Emergency Services under Burbank Municipal Code Section 5-2-106 are reasonably related and necessary to the protection of life and property as affected by the spread of COVID-19.

The Director of Emergency Services of the City of Burbank does hereby order:

- A. The following rules and regulations are hereby instituted within the City Burbank:
  1. All City parks and playgrounds shall be closed beginning 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, April 11, 2020 to sunrise on Monday, April 13, 2020.
  2. It shall be unlawful to enter or remain in any public park and/or playground between 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, April 11, 2020 to sunrise on Monday, April 13, 2020.
  3. The Parks and Recreations Director is authorized to take all steps reasonably necessary to close all City parks as ordered herein, such as, but not limited to, locking all restroom facilities and posting signage of the closures, as well as patrolling the parks with the assistance of Burbank Police when necessary.
- B. This order takes precedence over Burbank Municipal Code 5-3-410: Unlawful To Be In Parks When Closed, subsection (a), where there is a conflict in provisions. Except as so limited, BMC §5-3-410 is still operative.
- C. Pursuant to Burbank Municipal Code Section 5-2-301 it is unlawful to commit any act forbidden by this order. Any person violating any of the provisions or failing to comply with any of the mandatory requirements of this Code including violating this order may be charged with a misdemeanor pursuant to Burbank Municipal Code Section 1-1-105.

- D. This order is effective immediately through sunrise on April 13, 2020, unless extended further.
- E. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this order is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this order.

DATED this 8th day of April, 2020.



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Justin Hess, City Manager and  
Director of Emergency Services