
From: Michael Jones
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2020 3:46 PM
To: Michael Jones
Cc: City Council
Subject: Open Letter to Blaine Citizens 4-6-20
Attachments: Open Letter to Blaine Citizens 4-6-20.pdf

Councilmembers,

I will be publishing the attached letter in the Northern Light on Thursday.

Michael



CITY OF BLAINE

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

435 MARTIN STREET, STE. 3000 • BLAINE, WA • 98230

To the Citizens of Blaine,

I am writing to update you on the operations at the City of Blaine offices. Under the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” order from Governor Inslee, City Hall, Public Works, and Police offices are closed to the public. However, City of Blaine staff are still working, either from home, from the office, or in our community completing necessary maintenance, essential construction, and public safety activities.

We will continue to work to provide services and maintain facilities for the public good and I expect that we will continue under the same general operations until the order is lifted.

This is a difficult time. We are all are worried about our health and safety and about the health of our friends, neighbors, and loved ones. We are all worried about our jobs, paying bills, and our future. Despite this uncertainty, I have a deep faith in our community and I know the more we work together and support one other, the better we will all be for it. I ask that you to be kind, look out for your friends and neighbors, and through your actions help others see Blaine as the great community we all know it to be.

I have heard from many of you that Blaine is on the cusp of something great. Businesses are moving in and growing. Downtown is seeing a renaissance. Homes are filling in on vacant lots, and neighborhoods are expanding. Our achievements face a major obstacle in the form of COVID-19, but this is an obstacle we can overcome. I urge you to support your local businesses. You'll be glad they are still here when this is over.

We are trying to make things a little easier. The City Council has authorized relief measures and is offering help. We will be offsetting all credit card fees charged to City utility bills paid on line. There will be no utility shut-offs for lack of payment during the emergency and we have waived late payment penalties. If you are having trouble paying your bill, please contact our Utility Billing department. If you can pay your bill, please do so.

As public servants, City employees work to help make the lives of Blaine residents, visitors, property owners and business owners better, safer, more comfortable, and more successful. We are proud of the work we do, and we will keep at it through these difficult times.

Please shop local and thank you for continuing to make the best of a strange and difficult situation.

Sincerely,

Michael Jones
Blaine City Manager