

Mayor Webber Issues COVID Emergency Proclamation XVIII

*Mayor Anticipates this to be Final
COVID Emergency Proclamation*

SANTA FE, June 6, 2022 — Today Mayor Alan Webber issued what he intends to be the last Proclamation of Emergency as related to the Coronavirus pandemic (Proclamation XVIII). It replaces the proclamation that expired at noon today. On Wednesday, the Governing Body will consider a Resolution to extend the Emergency Proclamation to June 27, 2022.

“We’re starting to see what the transition from a pandemic to an endemic looks like, and today’s proclamation reflects that,” said Mayor Webber. “Here at the outset of the high season for summer events and gatherings, many people in the community remain at risk of infection and disease, so we all still need to be careful and considerate. I urge everyone to keep up the COVID-safe practices that have served our community well — get your boosters and wear masks in crowded indoor settings. People are still hurting from the social, emotional, and economic effects of the pandemic, and the City will continue to offer support wherever we can.”

Among the orders in the Proclamation, the Mayor directs City Manager John Blair to:

- Take the necessary steps to transition from the existing encampment policy to a service-based strategy utilizing a designated City supported location. Provide for the well-being of those experiencing homelessness and facilitate their access to services.
- Maintain the “up-to-date” vaccination status for COVID-19 for new employees.
- Work with the Utilities Department to identify and announce a schedule for notice regarding the lifting of the ongoing moratorium on water shut-offs, to allow customers ample time to enter a payment plan and/or seek relief funds, while charges will continue to accrue and be owed.

For utility payments that are overdue to the City, customers may set up a payment plan by calling Utility Billing’s main number, 505-955-4333, and selecting option “2”.

Residents and visitors to the City are encouraged to obtain “up-to-date” vaccination against the COVID-19 virus, which includes all recommended booster vaccinations. Available locations for vaccination are posted on <https://cvvaccine.nmhealth.org>.

The State moratorium on evictions expired June 1, 2022. Residents are advised to seek relief funds for overdue housing and utility payments from the following sources:

- For renters, the Emergency Rental Assistance Program: renthelpnm.org.
- For homeowners, the State of New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority: <https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/NEWMEXICOHOMEOWNERASSISTANCEFUND/Participant>; (505) 308-4206, (866) 488-0498; or housingassistance@housingnm.org