



the BELLFLOWER CITIZEN

Volume 20 Issue 5-3

ONLINE WEEKLY EDITION

May 22, 2020

City's *New Hope* Temporary Service Shelter is Now Open

The Bellflower City Council recently conducted multiple small ribbon-cutting ceremonies for Bellflower's New Hope Temporary Services Shelter, in compliance with current COVID-19 restrictions. Ceremonies included Los Angeles County Board Supervisor, Janice Hahn and United States District Court Judge, David O. Carter. New Hope began serving the Bellflower homeless population on Wednesday, May 20, 2020 in compliance with the City's landmark settlement agreement with homeless advocate plaintiffs on September 23, 2019. Bellflower is the first city in Los Angeles County to sign on with Judge Carter's order as a method of addressing the pervasive homelessness issue.

The completion of New Hope is the first of such homeless shelters to open in Los Angeles County and opened only five months after a location, archi-

tect and construction company were identified. It represents a remarkable transformation from an empty metal warehouse to a state of the art 50-bed shelter and navigation center which will provide much needed services to Bellflower's homeless population, all made possible through the support and funding from Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn, as well as city funds.

New Hope's operator, Mercy House, will help program participants with creating a housing plan, making connections to housing resources and ending their homelessness as soon as possible. The program maintains a strict no-walk-up policy and depends on referrals from local non-profit organizations, contracted homeless liaisons and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. For more info visit www.bellflower.org/newhope.



Memorial Holiday Schedule Change Monday, May 25th

City Hall is closed.

There will be no trash pickup on Monday, May 25th. Pickup will be delayed one day for the rest of the week.

There will be no street sweeping on Monday, May 25th.

Free Stickers for Stage 2 Reopening



If you are operating or ready to reopen, Bellflower Economic Development is here to help! **Products will be delivered in late May (production is a bit delayed).** To reserve 2 sidewalk decals and one window cling, call (562) 804-1424 ext 2249 or email amiyashiro@bellflower.org

LA County's Economic Resiliency Task Force Sets Sights on July 4th Reopening

Los Angeles County's Economic Resiliency Task Force - created last month to help the County improve the economy, create jobs and return to full employment - has announced its plan to reopen LA County by July 4th.

As of now, the current Health Officer Order replaces the previous Health Officer Order and allows for retailers and manufacturers, select recreational facilities, and beaches to reopen. Retailers remain closed to public entry and beaches are open for active recreation only. Retail businesses, manufacturing and logistic businesses are

required to prepare, implement and post their plan for adhering to directives including distancing and infection control practices that protect both employees and customers. Employees who can work from home should be doing so, and any staff who are at greater risk of serious illness from COVID-19, i.e. older adults and people with underlying health conditions, should be assigned work that can be done from home, if possible.

"Protocols for Retail Establishments Opening for Curbside Pickup: Appendix B" handout outlines requirements specific to retail establishments permitted to reopen for curbside pickup. A copy of the protocol should be posted at all public entrances to the facility and each employee should be provided a copy as well. The County has also created retail business poster available for download (to post). To find links to these documents, visit www.bellflower.org/business.

BUSD Update

Bellflower Unified School District (BUSD) provided a web update on May 15, 2020. Due to the Public Health Officer's Order, Bellflower High School, Middle School and Elementary Schools are currently working on virtual celebrations and other types of acknowledgements for their graduating/promoting students.

Families will be receiving information in the next few weeks regarding the close out of the school year and on how students may return items or get personal belongings that may still be at the school campus.

The Los Angeles Department of Public Health (LADPH) did not give new orders on schools reopening. As of now, the school start date of August 13, 2020. School policies are changing rapidly. For up-to-date information visit www.bUSD.k12.ca.us.

Check Your Water Quality

Building and business closures for weeks or months reduce water usage, potentially leading to stagnant water inside building plumbing. This water can become unsafe to drink or otherwise use for domestic or commercial purposes. EPA recommends that building owners and managers take proactive steps to protect public health by minimizing water stagnation during closures and taking action to address building water quality prior to reopening. For more info visit www.epa.gov/coronavirus.



Faucets

Run at full flow for at least two minutes.



Toilets

Flush at least twice.



Showers

Run at full flow for at least two minutes.



SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Applications for grants up to \$10k will be available to small business owners beginning late May 2020

Do you have:

- under 25 employees
- brick-and-mortar location
- current business license
- a legally operating business
- no Code Enforcement issues

- First-come, first-serve process
- Only 50 applications will be accepted in Round 1
- Be in business for minimum 6 months
- Visit website for full eligibility criteria and CDBG area map

The City of Bellflower's new Small Business Assistance Program offers one-time \$10,000 grants to help businesses retain staff and continue to provide quality services to its residents. The grant program is made possible with federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); therefore, businesses must meet all requirements to be eligible for the program. An Eligibility Checklist and official grant application will be made available during the last week of May on the City's website at <https://www.yahoo.com/entertain->