

## Borough of Seaside Park

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Dear Residents.

I wanted to first write to thank each and every one of you for doing your part in helping to flatten the curve, in this national crisis. It is imperative that we continue to follow social distancing guidelines and other safety measures to protect ourselves and others.

If you do not already have it, I wanted to provide the link to the New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub, https://covid19.nj.gov/. This site was set up to consolidate the many resources related to COVID-19, both for individuals and businesses. There are portals on this site, intended to provide answers to questions about the disease itself, and what to do if you believe that you may be infected, as well as to provide answers to questions about social services, and grants, and financial assistance for businesses and individuals. All of Governor Murphy's Executive Orders related to COVID-19 are also on the site in one place for easy reference.

Additionally, another resource at the federal level is <a href="https://www.coronavirus.gov/">https://www.coronavirus.gov/</a>

This health crisis has been centered on information sharing between all levels of government, starting at the local level, moving through the County, State, and Federal levels. Every week, I participate in a conference call with the Governor's office and other mayors to learn exactly what the executive orders mean for our Borough. Additionally, our Ocean County Freeholders have a conference call every week with mayors to discuss County wide measures that have been taken and how they will affect local municipalities.

In regard to positive cases of COVID-19 in our community, we currently have 3 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Seaside Park. It is expected across all municipalities in the state, that numbers will rise, as testing becomes more readily available. Due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), information related to these individual positive cases is protected. The total number of cases in each municipality in Ocean County is posted on the Ocean County Health Department website at https://www.ochd.org/.

The best way to avoid exposure and to stop the spread is to stay home. If you do not need to go out for essential travel (groceries, food pickup, work, or medical appointments), please do your best to stay home.

Our governing body is working diligently in conjunction with our emergency management team to respond to new information as we receive it. At our last meeting, we suspended all Air BnB and online rentals, in conjunction with the Governor's authorization.

Our next virtual governing body meeting is on April 9, 2020. The information for how to access the meeting is on our Borough website.

I would like to continue to thank our Borough employees, who constantly demonstrate their dedicated service to the public. Additionally, there are no words to express the gratitude for our heroic Police officers, Public Works employees, Fire, and Tri-Boro First Aid emergency personnel, who are the First Responders that continually put themselves on the front line to serve, protect, and help others.

Lastly, to our residents, I would like to thank you once again for your patience and cooperation during this time. Woven into the fabric of Seaside Park is a sense of community and family. We know our neighbors and local business owners. One concept that was emphasized in one of my many conference calls of the last few weeks, is that social distancing does not mean social isolation. Reach out and call a family member, friend, or neighbor. That being said, your governing body is here for you. If you need assistance, or have questions, please feel free to contact me at mayorpeterson@seasideparknj.org.

We are all in this together and I am confident that we will continue to work as one united community to keep our Borough and its residents healthy and safe. We have made it through Superstorm Sandy, the boardwalk fire, and the bombing attempt, and we will make it through this as well.

Sincerely,

Mayor John A. Peterson, Jr.