



City of Camarillo

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Office of the Mayor
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May 21, 2020

Dear Fellow Residents:

Last week, our community began a phased reopening of our businesses under State and County guidance. This brings mixed feelings throughout our community. Some are eager to get all of our businesses open and may be frustrated that the County is allowing some businesses to open and not others. Some are concerned about businesses reopening at all, because this presents risks to our community for exposure to COVID-19.

The City of Camarillo is following the direction of the Ventura County Public Health Officer, as we have been throughout this public health emergency. I'm asking for us to show patience and grace with each other. Everyone is adjusting to new social norms and new ways of doing things—things that we used to do without a second thought now take planning and intention.

As we move forward in a different world, we want to maintain the progress we've made in slowing the virus. A reopening does not mean a return to the life we once knew. Social distancing, hand-washing and the other safety directives remain imperative.

Instead, a reopening means learning to use new processes in familiar places. We also need to remember that it's new for everyone and this "new normal" affects each of us in different ways.

It means considering that someone might not understand what you're saying because they can't see your facial expression or read your lips behind a mask. Please be patient and kind, and ready to speak a little louder and repeat ourselves if needed.

It means that traffic is coming back! Those who have been enjoying the open roads will need to continue to drive safely and with courtesy for others. Our roads belong to everyone, and are being used by community members who would rather stay safely at home but need to take care of critical errands. Please show each other respect on the roads.

This new normal means being patient and planning ahead. Instead of the speedy, walk-in service you're used to, you will most likely need to make an appointments and wait longer for service. You may have to follow new walking instructions inside familiar establishments, or new markings.

It means remembering our Public Health Officer has recommended wearing masks while we are out and about in the community. They are not required, but encouraged. But please understand that establishments serving the public have a right to require masks within their business. They also have the right to refuse service to those who don't comply. They are doing their best to protect their employees and their customers.

We are moving forward at the pace allowed. I want to thank our incredible community for your civility and for standing together through this difficult time.

There is so much we cannot control about this COVID-19 pandemic, but we can control the amount of grace we extend to one another as we get through this together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tony Trembley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Tony Trembley
Mayor