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# Mayor's Snapshot

April 21, 2020

Latest news and updates from Mayor Bob Severns

## We're all in this together

I want to thank you for continuing to do your part to stay home and only go out for essential activities. There are a few weeks more of the current orders. More people are practicing social distancing and using cloth face coverings out in public. Cloth face coverings is a Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendation for times when social distancing is difficult to maintain in places where there are large groups (at grocery stores, pharmacies, etc.).

The orders do not require you to stay indoors at all times. You can go for walks and exercise. Some additional mental health options are provided below because we live in a beautiful area that provides plenty of opportunities for taking in some fresh air.

## Face Covering Do's and Don'ts:

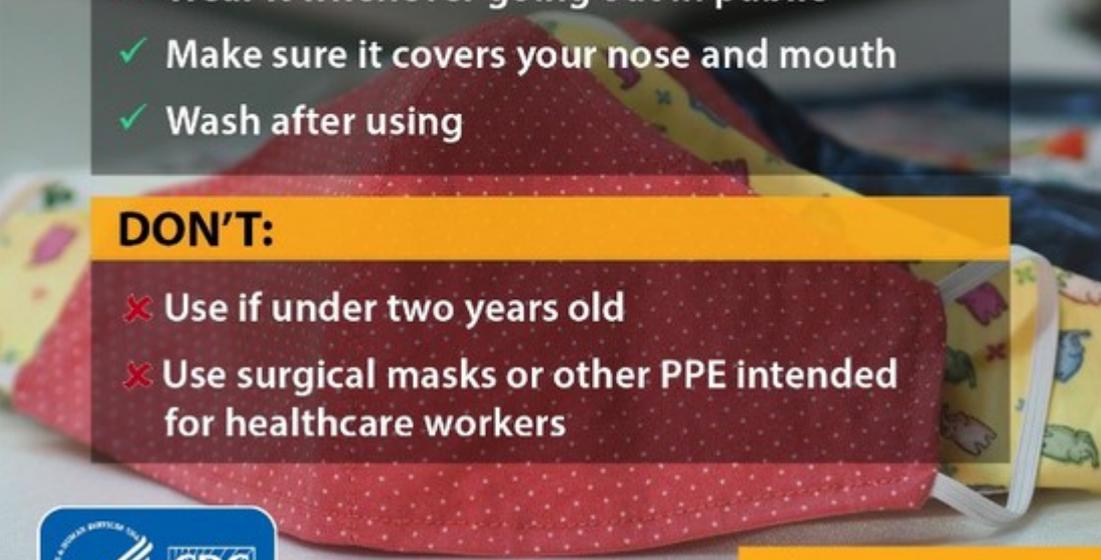


**DO:**

- ✓ Make sure you can breathe through it
- ✓ Wear it whenever going out in public
- ✓ Make sure it covers your nose and mouth
- ✓ Wash after using

**DON'T:**

- ✗ Use if under two years old
- ✗ Use surgical masks or other PPE intended for healthcare workers



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

## Mental Health Resources

- Mental Health Hotline is available to assist you at 360-678-2346 if you are feeling anxious, scared or concerned about yourself, a friend, or neighbor. It is a great opportunity to just chat with someone.
- Text HOME to the Crisis Hotline at 741747 to have a text chat instead of talking.
- Citizens Against Domestic Violence Assistance (CADA) is available 24 hours for free by phone at 360-675-2232. Your call is confidential.

Isolating during COVID-19 is hard enough, but no one deserves to be disrespected.

Are you feeling belittled, intimidated, or controlled?

Is someone forcing you to engage in unwanted sexual activity?

Is someone making you feel that things are all your fault?

Free & Confidential Help is Available 24/7:

In Island County: CADA 24/7 Support: 800.215.5669  
National Crisis TEXT Hotline: Text 'CONNECT' to 741741  
Teens connect with teens: Text 'LOVEIS' to 22522  
CHAT with someone online anytime: TheHotline.org/help



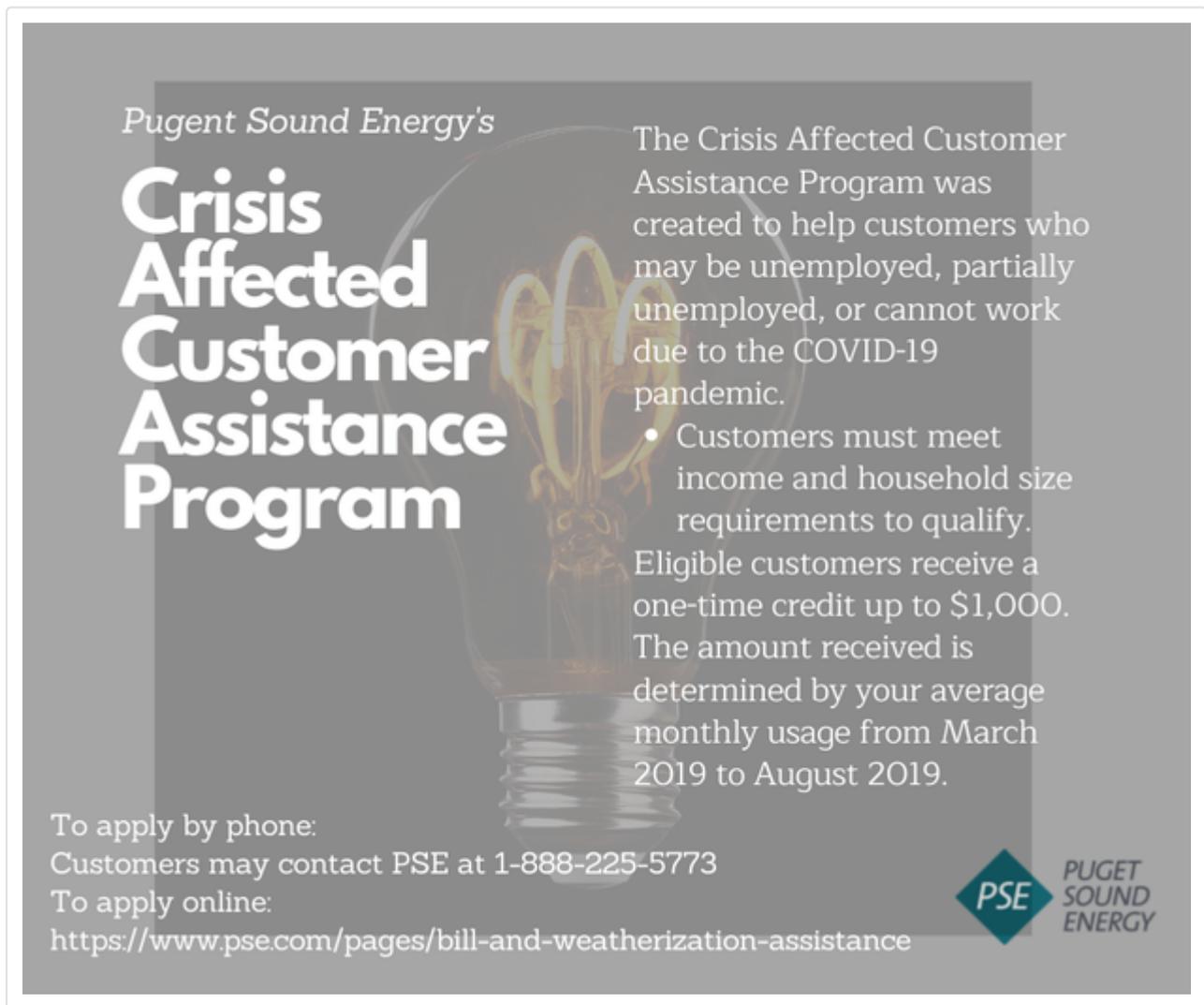
## April 7, 2020 - City Council Meeting

Per Governor Jay Inslee's orders, the City Council Meeting [Agenda](#) was reduced to essential items.

- The City Council is continuing to use the summer schedule for meetings. The Council moved to cancel the April 21 City Council Meeting and hold the [City Council Workshop](#) on April 22.
- April Commission meetings are canceled. Planning Commission provided a report in the agenda packet but did not give a presentation.
- No public comments received. In-person comments are not available under the current orders from Governor Inslee. However, electronic and telephonic comments are accepted.

Approval of Consent Items A through H as presented. Councilmember Woessner requested to pull Item I - Windjammer Promenade Ramp, for additional discussion. There were questions about the additional cost request. Staff provided an overview and reasoning for the increase in amount because of unsuitable soils on the project site and increased costs. Council approved the request.

The City website at [www.oakharbor.org](http://www.oakharbor.org) and [Facebook.com/OakHarbor](https://www.facebook.com/OakHarbor) have updates about COVID-19. You can also call the City Operator for assistance at 360-279-4500. I appreciate the work that our City staff and leaders are providing during this time and their efforts to continue to serve our community.

A graphic for Puget Sound Energy's Crisis Affected Customer Assistance Program. It features a glowing lightbulb in the background. The text is arranged as follows: 'Puget Sound Energy's' in a small font at the top left; 'Crisis Affected Customer Assistance Program' in large, bold, white letters on the left; 'The Crisis Affected Customer Assistance Program was created to help customers who may be unemployed, partially unemployed, or cannot work due to the COVID-19 pandemic.' in a medium font on the right; a bullet point '• Customers must meet income and household size requirements to qualify.' below that; 'Eligible customers receive a one-time credit up to \$1,000. The amount received is determined by your average monthly usage from March 2019 to August 2019.' in a medium font below the bullet point; contact information at the bottom left; and the PSE logo at the bottom right.

Puget Sound Energy's

# Crisis Affected Customer Assistance Program

The Crisis Affected Customer Assistance Program was created to help customers who may be unemployed, partially unemployed, or cannot work due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Customers must meet income and household size requirements to qualify.

Eligible customers receive a one-time credit up to \$1,000. The amount received is determined by your average monthly usage from March 2019 to August 2019.

To apply by phone:  
Customers may contact PSE at 1-888-225-5773

To apply online:  
<https://www.pse.com/pages/bill-and-weatherization-assistance>



PSE PUGET SOUND ENERGY

## Financial Assistance

- Washington State Employment Security Department scheduled a software upgrade on Sunday, April 19. Additional resources for filing are available online for instructions on [how to apply](#), [frequently asked questions](#), [basic eligibility requirements](#), and [temporary layoffs, standby, or furloughs](#).
- Island County Property Taxes are due on April 30. However, the Island County Treasurer is offering payment plans for those affected by COVID-19. This is for 2020 taxes only. More details are available on the Island County Treasurer [webpage](#).

- City of Oak Harbor Utility Billing customers can contact the Utility Billing Department to make payment arrangements if they are financially impacted by COVID-19. Please call 360-279-4530.
- [Childcare resources](#) during school closures area available.
- Food assistance, contact the [North Whidbey Help House](#)



## Help shape Oak Harbor's future

It will only take a few minutes to have an impact on the future of this City. Your response helps fund our community for the next ten years. Responses to the census help fund important programs for students, roads, libraries, hospitals and more.

You can help by simply taking a few minutes to answer the following 10 questions:

1. Address (rent/own)
2. Phone Number
3. Number of people living at the address
4. Name
5. Gender
6. Age and Date of Birth

7. Race
8. Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin (this question relates to the Civil Rights Act)
9. Whether a person lives or stays somewhere else
10. Relationship

There are three ways to respond,

1. On the web at [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov)
2. By telephone at 844-330-2020, or
3. By completing the paper form (received in the mail)

They will not ask for your:

1. Social Security Number
2. Bank Account Information
3. Credit Card Information
4. Political Party Affiliation
5. Religion
6. Citizenship

If anyone requests this information, they do not work for the U.S. Census Bureau.

Please help out our community by taking time out to complete the census. It matters and will help provide funding for future projects. Thank you!



**IRS will not call to request any personal or financial information for you to get an economic impact payment.**

**IF YOU GET SUCH A CALL, HANG UP**

**[www.irs.gov/coronavirus](http://www.irs.gov/coronavirus)**



## Economic Impact Payments

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is committed to helping you get your Economic Impact Payment as soon as possible. The payments (also known as stimulus payments or checks)

will be automatic for most taxpayers. No further action is needed by taxpayers who filed tax returns in 2018 and 2019, including most seniors and retirees. You can check your eligibility [online](#).

## Take out to help our small businesses out

We can all do our part to help out our small businesses by ordering take out. A list of open businesses is available at [COVID-19 Business Info](#). You can also include alcoholic beverages too.

## Farmers' Market Update

Produce stands are considered essential businesses. This means they can operate as long as proper measures are in place to keep workers and customers safe. It is no different than shopping at a grocery store. More details at the [Washington Department of Health](#).



### Mayor Bob Severns

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