MEDIA ADVISORY:
City Assures Continuation of Essential Services, Encouraging the Use of Phone & Email

Holtville, California – As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, local communities across the country are taking action to protect the health and well-being of residents and municipal workers. The City of Holtville is preparing to comply with the State of California and Imperial County Public Health Departments’ orders to restrict activities that may exacerbate the spread of COVID-19.

Although the governor's declaration of March 19, 2020, requires all Californians to stay home and "shelter in place," City services are specifically exempted in the order. The City of Holtville will continue to provide essential services such as police, fire, water and sewer with contingency plans in place. Non-essential City functions are being modified with a focus on workplace safety and potential for COVID-10 spread.

With local, state and federal guidance, the City is implementing social distancing measures across all non-essential services. Significant service level changes have been identified and the City has implemented temporary suspension of activities organized at all park facilities. The City’s COVID-19 Emergency Plan is posted at www.Holtville.ca.gov and will be periodically updated.

For non-emergency matters, we urge the public to conduct City business by phone or via email. For utility bill payments, please use the Utility Department’s drop box on the north side of City Hall for checks or money orders. **Cash will not be accepted until further notice! A new payment option is being offered as of today, PayPal, using the email address mail@Holtville.ca.gov. Be advised that a $5 service fee will be added for each payment using the PayPal option.**

"In discussions with City Council and staff, we are hopeful that this crisis is mitigated by the measures being put in place. In exercising great caution, we have decided to minimize staff interaction with the public as much as is feasible, while working to create as many options as we can to continue ease of access," says City Manager Nick Wells. "We are still here to help, but please call in for service!"

**Key City Contact Information**

| Administration, Billing & Finance (760) 356-2912 | Questions? Contact our office or a specific department to determine whether your business can be conducted by phone, email or through our website: www.Holtville.ca.gov |
| City Clerk / Records (760) 356-4685 | |
| Planning (760) 337-3883 | |
| Police: (760) 356-5960 | |
| If you have an emergency, please dial 9-1-1 |

**Other Key Websites**

- Imperial County Department of Public Health  https://www.icphd.org
- CA Department of Public Health  https://covid19.ca.gov/
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)  https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19