



"Preserving Our Past, Enriching Our Present, Building Our Future"

33 Broadway, Jackson, CA 95642-2301
(209) 223-1646 / Fax (209) 223-3141
e-mail: cinfo@ci.jackson.ca.us

April 9, 2020

Dear Jackson Residents and Businesses,

The City declared a local COVID-19 emergency on March 16, 2020. Since then, our lives have changed significantly, sometimes by the minute. I am grateful to the Jackson Community. As I drive through our local streets every day on my way to essential services, I am amazed by how each and every one of us, including residents and businesses, are doing our part to stop the spread of the COVID-19.

The City of Jackson has modified operations, closed all city offices to the public, partially closed park facilities while remaining essential city services fully operational, including police, fire/EMT, water, sewer, and other public works and administration functions. City operations were adjusted in a matter of days to enable employees to work remotely and serve the public through online services, email or telephone. I am proud of the city staff for their dedication and resilience during this challenging time.

Jackson residents are diligently following the "stay-at-home" order and exercising regular measures such as frequent hand washing and maintaining a social distance. Essential businesses, including hospital, grocery stores, pharmacies, banks and government functions, continue to remain open with necessary precautions. Amador County's only hospital is located in Jackson and I'm grateful that it is equipped with superb medical workers and able to respond to any health crisis, including COVID-19. I cannot thank our community enough for the ongoing efforts to combat COVID-19.

Yet I am sad when I hear that many residents and many local businesses are deeply concerned about the financial future due to job loss and business closure. As a small business owner, my heart goes out to those impacted. Please know that Jackson City Council cares about our residents and businesses and we are here for you.

Jackson was the first city in Amador County to declare a local COVID-19 emergency; this declaration made federal and state assistances available to Jackson. Immediately after the declaration, the City implemented a moratorium on utility late payments and shut-off measures. The City has relaxed Main street parking requirements to accommodate food pick up needs. Last week, the City adopted an emergency ordinance to prohibit evictions during this crisis. City Council directed staff to closely monitor local, state and federal resources for small businesses and collaborate with the Amador Chamber Commerce and other regional organizations. Business owners can find a comprehensive resource and guidance list via the city website.

During time of crisis, it is necessary for me to reassure the community that our first responders are protecting us and keeping us safe day and night. Jackson has first class Police and Fire Departments that are fully committed to the community's safety.

In the last few weeks, the Police Department has increased their level of patrol. They conduct business security checks frequently during the period of business closure. They also check in often with our elderly communities and other vulnerable individuals. The officers have reached out to homeless individuals to ensure they are doing their part to fight COVID-19. Due to restrictions on the criminal justice system during the crisis, the Police Department is facing challenges of prosecuting criminals and booking suspects into jail. We understand your frustration and ask for your understanding. Please do report any suspicious activities as soon as possible. The Police Department will do what they can to ensure law and order.

Despite the needs to interact with the public and often those at risk, Jackson Fire Department personnel and EMTs take necessary measures to remain healthy and strong. The Department is always ready to respond and save lives any time of the day and the night.

In conclusion, changes and adjustments are never easy. But if we band together, we will weather this crisis better and come out much stronger. I ask that we as a community stay calm, be kind and continue to do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19. I also ask that we shop Jackson and support our first responders.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me. I am available to you 24/7 via phone 925-759-2701. Stay well!

Yours truly,

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

Robert Stimpson, Mayor