CITY OF ANNISTON, ALABAMA

MAYOR
Jack Draper

CITY COUNCIL
Jay Jenkins - Ward 1
David Reddick - Ward 2
Ben Little - Ward 3
Millie Harris - Ward 4

CITY MANAGER
Steven Folks

PRESS RELEASE - MARCH 17, 2020 - 2:10PM

JACKSON HODGES, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER - CITY OF ANNISTON
4309 MCCLELLAN BLVD, ANNISTON, AL 36206 - WWW.ANNISTONAL.GOV
JHODGES@ANNISTONAL.GOV - (256)-846-2044

According to the Alabama Department of Public Health, as of March 17, 2020 at 11:34am, there have been thirty-six confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Alabama and no deaths. There are currently no confirmed cases in the City of Anniston, or in Calhoun County. However, it is expected that positive cases may emerge in the coming days. Seeing as such, the Alabama Department of Public Health has since stated that all gatherings of 25 people or more are prohibited in Jefferson, Blount, St. Clair, Shelby, Tuscaloosa, and Walker Counties (*Effective Today: 03/17/20, Link: https://bit.ly/2vuhPBd*).

Furthermore, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is urging cities across the U.S. to cancel or postpone events with 50 or more attendees (*Link: https://cnb.cx/3d5Z9Zt*). Therefore, given the proximity of the above counties to our own, and in an effort to adhere our community to the safest practices recommended by both the CDC and AL. Dept. of Public Health, the City of Anniston will also take the following precautionary measures for the health and safety of our residents:

CENTER RENTALS

- **Rental Policy Until End of April 2020**: The following City of Anniston public centers will no longer be available for rental purposes (***effective today: 03/17/20 until 04/30/20***): the Anniston City Meeting Center, Aquatic & Fitness Center, Carver Community Center, Norwood Hodges Community Center, South Highland Community Center, and Wiggins Community Center.
- **Events/Rentals Already Established (03/17/20 - 04/30/20)**: If you have rented one of the above centers for an event, or any other purpose, you will be contacted by center staff, informing you of the cancellation of your event.
- **Rental Refunds & Rescheduling**: All deposits and fees associated with rentals/events, already established between 03/17/20 - 04/30/20, will be refunded in their totality.

CENTER OPERATIONS

- **Hours of Operation**: Please note the below information, as it relates to the hours and operations of Anniston's public centers:

	Anniston City Meeting Center	*Aquatic Center, Carver, South Highland, Wiggins, Norwood Hodges*	
Hours:	**Anniston City Meeting Center** **Mon-Th**: 1:00pm - 9:00pm **Saturday**: 9:00am - 5:00pm **Sunday**: Closed	**Community Centers** **Mon-Th**: 1:00pm - 9:00pm **Saturday**: 9:00am - 5:00pm **Friday**: 1:00pm - 5:00pm **Sunday**: Closed	**Aquatic Center** **Mon-Th**: 5:30am - 9:00pm **Saturday**: 7:00am - 5:00pm **Friday**: 5:30am - 7:00pm **Sunday**: 1:00pm - 5:00pm
Operation Changes:	**Anniston City Meeting Center** None. City council meetings and city council work-session will still take place at this location, at their regularly scheduled times due to the Alabama Open Meetings Act	**Aquatic Center** • Monday-Friday pool hours: 5:30am until 5:00pm. • Saturday pool hours: 7:00am until 4:30pm • Sunday pool hours: 1:00pm until 4:30pm • There will be no organized classes, such as: swim lessons, aerobics, scuba, and swim team. Also, there will be no group fitness classes, including spin, Zumba, pound...etc. • Will be open for lap swim. • The sauna and steam rooms are closed until further notice.	