

Borough of Little Silver

Settled 1667

Incorporated 1923



March 15, 2020

Dear Little Silver Residents:

As you may know, we have been advised that three (3) residents in two entirely separate households in Little Silver have been determined to be positive for the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, with a fourth resident within one of the two households symptomatic. Currently, they are all self-quarantined. Because your health and safety is paramount, especially in time of crisis, we will update this information should it change.

In the meantime, please read this letter for important instructions to be followed in the days ahead. In particular, please note the formation of a group (with contact information) to assist anyone who may be especially vulnerable to the virus.

The spread of COVID-19 is a serious public health issue. As part of its continuing response, the Borough Council conducted an emergency meeting with local OEM, police, fire, first aid, public works, regional health officials, representatives from the Borough Board of Health, representatives from Riverview Medical Center and Senator O'Scanlon. That meeting was productive and resulted in the recommendations in this letter.

First, the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission, as it has from the beginning, continues its investigation to identify all those who had contact with the positive cases. Please cooperate with that agency if you are contacted, and follow the advice you are given.

Second, all Little Silver residents must be mindful of their health. Please consult with your primary care physician if you feel sick, and adhere to the recommendations of the CDC and State and local public health officials to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, including:

- Clean your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home if you're sick, except to get medical care.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.

We also encourage you to engage in "social distancing." We have taken the lead in doing so by closing all Borough buildings to the public, while continuing to conduct business and being available to residents via telephone at (732) 842-2400 and/or email. More information can be found at our website,

www.littlesilver.org. You can engage in social distancing by: avoiding handshakes, large group get-togethers, public events, and unnecessary travel; conducting conversations and business via telephone or video conferencing to avoid non-essential visitors; adjusting your shopping schedules to avoid peak hours, or plan for deliveries; and ordering take-out from our local restaurants.

We believe these steps are appropriate at this time and urge all residents to voluntarily comply with these recommendations to avoid implementation of more drastic measures to keep people from congregating.

Third, we know the COVID-19 virus is causing great concern throughout the community. We share that concern. The Borough is taking the situation very seriously and is closely monitoring developments. We will keep you informed of any updates, and adjust our operations further as needed. **If you have not done so already, please sign up for Code Red emergency alerts to receive up to the minute notifications through your cell phone or via email by visiting <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/BF989F572F2E> or calling 866-939-0911.**

For those of you with children in the schools, please continue to closely monitor the school websites and other means of communication. For those with questions that are not answered on the websites and other handouts we are posting, please call the state hotline at 1-800-222-1222.

Fourth, for all our residents who may find it difficult or impossible to pick up groceries, prescriptions or other necessities, especially anyone who is ill or may be otherwise susceptible to COVID 19, please contact "LITTLE SILVER HELPERS" at littlesilverhelpers@gmail.com or call **732-383-5017**. They will do their best to respond to those in need.

Little Silver is a strong and resilient community that has always come together in times of crisis. We know we can count on all of you to do so once again. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding, and for watching out for each other under these difficult circumstances.

Very truly yours,

Mayor Robert C. Neff, Jr., the members of the Borough Council, and your Borough Administration