



March 16, 2020

A message from Mayor Sprouse,

In light of the ongoing efforts to contain and fight COVID-19, we at the City of Springdale want to express our appreciation and support to our private sector, (including many local businesses), our various non-profit organizations, and our family of churches, both large and small, that are striving to be a part of the solution. Government is structured to do certain things well. As we walk together through the uncertainties of the coming days, the City of Springdale will continue to provide the quality services that our residents have come to expect and deserve. However, there are many other areas that will fare much better when addressed by the private sector, with support by the city when possible and appropriate. That said, we should all be encouraged by those outside of government, who continually step up in an effort to meet the needs of our neighbors.

For example, many local restaurants have offered free meals to children and families who might struggle through this time, especially in light of schools temporarily closing. Our schools will still be involved in providing meals as they can, but these restaurant owners are stepping in, ready to fill any gaps. The point is that those restaurants, along with all of our locally owned businesses, need our continued support. These businesses are our friends and neighbors who have invested heavily in our community. Please remember our local businesses, when considering how and where to make your purchases.

We also have many non-profit organizations in Springdale that do amazing work year in and year out to meet various needs throughout our city. These organizations are made up of people who are living their passion for meeting those needs. These non-profits are able to do what they do because of the generosity of many individuals and businesses within our community. Please continue to support our friends who serve as a resource for those in need.

Finally, a word of thanks to our faith community; we are aware of many churches whose people pray regularly for our leaders as well as for all the people of our city. Many of those churches are now coming forward with initiatives to specifically address the needs of our most vulnerable during this challenging time. This work is above and beyond what they already do through countless ministries geared to meeting the needs of others, thereby also demonstrating God's love for all.

If you know of a church, another non-profit, or a private business that is offering some sort of help or assistance to those in need, please call or email the Mayor's Office, so as we receive inquiries from those needing help, we can play a role in connecting needs to resources.

Be encouraged, Springdale. Many generations before ours have survived much more difficult times than what we're facing now. We live in a blessed city, full of people who want to help and support others. God willing, we'll be through the worst of whatever this virus brings within a few weeks. And, as things return to normal, one positive that will remain will be the memories of how we prayed for, supported, and encouraged each other through a difficult time.