

From: [Mayor](#)
To: [Mayor](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Still Time to Fill Out Survey on Extended School Closures
Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 5:08:32 PM



A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Nadine Woodward".

The City of Spokane COVID-19 News Update for April 8

Information about Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19) is evolving rapidly. We want to make sure our City employees have up-to-date information. We will provide this update, as needed, to communicate what you need to know, while we work to reduce the spread of this disease in our community and continue to provide critical public services.

Survey on Extended School Closure – Deadline Friday, April 10, at 10 a.m.

We've already heard from a few of our employees who have school-aged children. Please take a moment to fill [out this survey](#) to help our Human Resources professionals understand how the school closure extension ordered earlier this will impact our employees. They are exploring options to assist employees with school-aged children. Responses to the survey are due by Friday, April 10, at 10 a.m.

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal announced Monday that they are extending the [closure of on-site instruction at K-12 public & private schools](#) through the end the **school year in June**. Schools will include distance learning through the end of the school year. Schools will continue to provide meals to students who need them throughout the spring.

Quarterly Newsletter from HR Focuses on Working from Home

Human Resources produces *The City Voice* quarterly newsletter, and in light of our work to respond to COVID-19, the HR team has focused on [Working from Home in this special edition](#). The newsletter provides a great compilation of ideas, tips, and guidance for our employees who are working to deliver excellent customer service and complete all kinds of City work from their own kitchen tables and living rooms. Using unfamiliar technology in an unusual setting can be challenging, but our employees are embracing the opportunity.

Domestic Violence, Child Abuse Awareness

Around our community, organizations that work to raise awareness around domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, and similar community issues are concerned about a rise in these problems as a result of the "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order. The order helps to slow the spread of COVID-19 but it is also increasing financial problems, isolation from family and friends, and other stress that can increase the incidence of things like child abuse and domestic violence.

Earlier this month, Mayor Nadine Woodward [proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month](#) as one way to highlight these challenges. Last night, the Riverfront Park Pavilion was lit up in blue for Child Abuse Prevention Month and teal for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. And last week, the Spokane COVID Response regional communications efforts focused on some of these concerns.

Community resources are available to help. Check out this [Domestic Violence & Child Abuse resource guide](#).

Employee Information Portal (<https://covid19.spokanecity.org/>)

Remember, this Employee Information Portal is a great resource for employees to stay current on what's happening with the COVID-19 response. The [Employee Information Portal](#) can be accessed from work or home, using a computer or mobile device. All of the emailed information we have sent to employees is archived here.

