



City of Westport

604 N Montesano St.

P O Box 505

Westport, WA 98595

Phone: 360-268-0131 Fax: 360-268-0921

May 21, 2020

Dear Lodging Provider,

On May 21, 2020, the Westport City Council voted to rescind the restrictions on lodging and open lodging back up effective May 22, 2020. Each lodging provider needs to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Washington Department of Health, and industry guidelines when they re-open. All lodging providers need to create a reopening plan for their individual business outlining how they will carry out their operations in a manner that will keep guests, employees, and neighbors safe. We have included some examples that you may want to incorporate into your plan, but in the ever changing world of COVID-19, lodging providers need to make sure they are regularly keeping up to date on the latest safety requirements. We have a wide variety of lodging options in Westport, and we believe our lodging providers know their businesses best. Each lodging provider should review the industry guidelines and develop a plan specific to your operation.

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, and it is essential that the spread of the virus be slowed to safeguard the public and protect healthcare resources. We know many of you are anxious to get back to business. We want to make sure our community does this in a way that allows us to have visitors while also doing our part to slow the spread of COVID19 and keeping our community safe. We do not want to have another shut down due to the spreading of virus.

Currently, the Governor's Stay Home, Stay Healthy Directive is in place through May 31, 2020. The desire is to welcome visitors within the safety guidelines and directives issued by the Governor and health officials. Right now, that means the City itself is not encouraging non-essential travel in accordance with Washington's Safe Start plan. During Phase 1, the Safe Start plan discourages non-essential travel outside your area of residence, and Phase 2 calls for limited non-essential travel within the proximity of your home. As the Safe Start Plan moves into future phases, the City will resume tourism-oriented marketing and messaging to travelers.

Please feel free to reach out if you have questions. We know this has been a difficult time for everyone, and we look forward to moving forward together.

Thank you,

Rob Bearden
Mayor, City of Westport

www.ci.westport.wa.us

mayorbearden@ci.westport.wa.us

public_works@ci.westport.wa.us

clerk_treasurer@ci.westport.wa.us

building@ci.westport.wa.us

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