

J.D. Gilbert, B.S., M.B.A.
County Administrator
& Public Information Officer
jgilbert@fordcounty.net

Dr. Shawn Fletcher, CPM
Assistant County Administrator
sfletcher@fordcounty.net



Ford County Government Center
100 Gunsmoke Street
Dodge City, Kansas 67801

Amy Stoecker
Executive Assistant
astoecker@fordcounty.net
620.227-4670 / 371-3977 fax

For Immediate Release

03/17/2020

Information is accurate as of 1130 03/17/2020

Ford County, Kansas – Ford County Local Government has decided to restrict public access to all Ford County facilities. This means that the County and it's departments will remain open for business for essential services only. We encourage all individuals needing to do business with the County to call ahead and confirm that your service is considered essential.

The County Treasurer's Office will still be processing vehicle tags with the following directions:

- 1) If you are sick or feeling ill, please do not come into the office or Government Center
- 2) Please maintain a distance of 6 feet between yourself and other individuals
- 3) There will be no more than two (2) people allowed at a station at any given time

***County Treasurer Deb Pennington encourages customers to process their renewals and pay their taxes online as opposed to coming into the office.

Vehicle Services - <https://www.ksrevenue.org/dovonlineservices.html>

Online taxes - <https://www.kansas.gov/propertytax/>

Expectations for County Buildings:

- 1) When coming to a County building please expect doors to be locked restricting access
- 2) There will be signage with phone numbers to call in order to receive service
- 3) Non-essential visits will not be permitted
- 4) Escorts may be available to help navigate the building safely
- 5) The department you may need to visit may be closed completely due to the nature of their services
- 6) Services may be limited due to restrictions

Why are we restricting access?

- 1) We are restricting access to help reduce the probability of the spread of the COVID-19

Why are we NOT closing completely?

- 1) As County Government, we provide essential services that are not provided by other agencies, so we have to maintain a certain level of functionality to provide services to all of you.

Confirmed COVID-19 Case in Ford County:

- 1) The confirmed case is an individual that traveled into Ford County from out-of-state for a visit and is not a resident of Ford County
- 2) The confirmed case is being treated for COVID-19 locally
- 3) The confirmed case has (2) contacts that are under quarantine for monitoring

The Mission of Ford County Government is to build on our heritage, prepare for the future and provide quality services to our citizens.

- 4) Ford County Health Department and Kansas Department of Health Environment have processes in place to help identify additional contacts and issue any further precautions

Availability for On-Camera Interview:

- 1) Ford County Vice-Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners Shawn Tasset will be available for on-camera at the Ford County Government Center at 1400 hours 03/17/2020
- 2) If you have any questions you would like to be considered, please email them to County Administrator and Public Information Officer J.D. Gilbert, B.S., M.B.A
Email: jgilbert@fordcounty.net

If you feel you are in need of COVID-19 testing because of active symptoms or recent travel to areas with confirmed cases, please call your medical provider. Medical providers, Western Plains Medical Complex and Ford County Health Department have the ability to test for COVID-19.

Please visit the following links for more information:

www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus
www.cdc.gov/covid19

Ford County Health Department recommendations to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- ✓ Use proper handwashing techniques
- ✓ Avoid attending large gatherings and work if you are feeling ill
- ✓ Avoid touching your mouth, eyes, nose without first washing your hands
- ✓ Cover your cough and sneeze
- ✓ Clean and disinfect contact surfaces (home, office, etc.)

Important Telephone Numbers:

KDHE Hotline 1.866.534.3463
Ford County Public Health Department 620.227.4545

J.D. Gilbert, BS, MBA



County Administrator and Public Information Officer

END

Page 2 of 2