



CITY OF ANACORTES

Laurie Gere, Mayor
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PRESS RELEASE

Summer 2020 Events Sponsored by the City of Anacortes are Cancelled.

May 11, 2020

The City of Anacortes has been closely monitoring the COVID-19 public health crisis and the recommendations of the Governor's Office and the Skagit County Public Health Department. Last week the Skagit County Public Health Officer Dr. Howard Leibrand, issued guidance on summer events. The recommendations are that the community should cancel or postpone all large scale events, therefore the City of Anacortes has made the decision to cancel the following:

- Kids Fishing Event, scheduled to take place June 6, 2020
- Bark in Park, scheduled to take place June, 20 2020
- Kids R Best Fest, scheduled to take place July11, 2020
- Art Dash scheduled, to take place August 1, 2020

The City of Anacortes Parks and Recreation Department is evaluating the remainder of our summer programs to find ways to adapt or postpone our recreation programs. The City's priority is public health and we believe that physical health is an important component of public health. If possible we will provide programming in a socially distanced or virtual capacity.

One of the elements of Bark in the Park is a pet food drive, we believe we can do this drive in a way that facilitates social distancing. Details will be available on the Parks and Recreation Department's webpage soon. Additionally, the City is exploring ways to offer the Art Dash as a "virtual run" where participants could run their own course, log their time, and still be a part of the event!

We are all adapting to the quickly evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and reacting to the recommendations to cancel some of our communities' most beloved summer events. The City has determined that the threat that large scale events pose to the health of the community is too great. The City will continue to work on innovative alternatives to these events so we can connect even when we are apart.

Please visit our website at: <https://www.anacorteswa.gov/490/Parks-Recreation> or follow the City of Anacortes Parks and Recreation Department on Facebook for more information as it becomes available. If you have specific questions please refer them to Dustin South, Recreation Manager at 360-293-1918 or dustins@cityofanacortes.org.