



Statewide P&R Professionals COVID-19 Coordination Call **Meeting Agenda**

Date: Thursday, June 11th
Time: 12PM
Location: Conference Call
Meeting ID: 168 918 878
<https://zoom.us/j/168918878>

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1) Comments from Rep. Larry Springer (D-Kirkland/45th Dist.), helping to head up House Democratic Caucus work group on COVID-19 recovery

Representative Springer shared his most recent COVID19 related updates. The current budget situation which the State is facing is grim and will make the 2008- 2009 crisis appear light. The shortfall that has already been identified will require an additional $\frac{3}{4}$ of a billion dollars after all reserves are utilized. There are few people in legislature who experienced the 2008-2009 budget issues. Representative Springer was clear in stating that we cannot raise enough revenue to get us out of this financial downfall and that we also can't make enough cuts to labor/services/etc. to get ahead. One thing we can do is to try to help the economy recover which can assist in revenue generation. Representative Springer is currently leading a group focused on economic recovery. They are investigating possible changes to the Governor's phase plan by requesting that services that can operate safely in an early stage be moved from a later phase. Tax implications while businesses are struggling to stay alive will not be a palatable option. There is a special legislative session scheduled for the second week of August to discuss generation of revenue as well as cuts. These decisions at the August session are intended see the State through to January. The reality is that some businesses will never reopen, and it is hard to determine how this will elongate the recession. There is no indication that we will start climbing out of this in 2021 or even 2022. The length of the crisis is what is most worrisome. The solutions that raise revenue the quickest are the most regressive. Trying to preserve shared revenue with local governments will be challenging moving forward. The next federal stimulus package is largely unknown at this time as is the degree that will be available to local governments. It was discussed that parks and recreation services are quick to be considered for

cutbacks. There was discussion and a consensus that certain aspects of parks departments will be on the chopping block. The next stimulus package will likely afford 1-2 billion dollars statewide, but we don't know how it will be administered and what requirements will be attached. It was discussed that parks and recreation agencies can provide key services to the reopening of the economy such as childcare. Representative Springer is aware of this service offering from parks and believes this is valuable. Our recreation agencies want to be positioned to assist in these avenues and help towards overall recovery. 75,000 to 80,000 childcare slots have been lost due to COVID19 statewide.

2) DOH Endorsement of Lifeguard Training Plans Proposed by WRPA

a. Rachel Drury – City of Covington

The Washington Department of Health and the WRPA Aquatics Network worked together to determine and discuss lifeguard training requirements. The main issue lies in the inability to train lifeguards while following social distancing regulations. It is not possible to eliminate physical contact with others in mandatory human contact training or in a real emergency. Lifeguards also cannot safely wear PPE while in the water performing a rescue. There are some trainings that are possible virtually but not active rescue training which is required for all lifeguards by the WAC. Mannequins were considered for training purposes when possible, but this is not always possible and does not always accurately simulate a human rescue. It is necessary to determine how to safely train lifeguards to the highest standard while mitigating COVID19 risk. While mitigating COVID19 risk is a true responsibility, the risks of drowning and other life-threatening cases can be mitigated through accurate lifeguard training which is not allowed at this time. Currently some counties can open their pools in the modified Phase I plan. However, this is contradictory because other restrictions make it not possible to train the lifeguards required to open pools. More information on this topic will be discussed at 2:30pm aquatics meeting today. Operating plans for swim lessons are the next objective to manage.

3) Identifying and Prioritizing Further Guidance from the Governor's Office

a. Survey

- Beach Management Standards or Life Guard Monitoring Requirement	19.15%	9
- Playgrounds - Number of Users at Once and Cleaning Standards	70.21%	33
- Spray Feature Operations	23.40%	11
- Restroom Cleaning Standards	55.32%	26
- Requirement for Restrooms in Parks or at Program Locations	55.32%	26
- Sailing, Canoeing Maximum - Can Up to 4 Be in a Craft without Distancing?	2.13%	1

A screenshot of the requested areas for additional guidance is depicted above. Most recreation agencies would like more guidance on playgrounds, restroom cleaning standards, and restrooms in general. Some instances of further guidance may be determined at a local level such as if the guidance is a matter of healthy practices it is suggested to ask the local health department for clarification. A document was shared which outlines the proper contacts for specific decision making/operations. It was

discussed that our agencies are not playground monitors and that individuals coming into our areas are responsible for following the posted rules. Outdoor and indoor gathering information was discussed and compared. Considerations of the implication of encouraging travel to facilities was also discussed. It was confirmed that 50 people per group per ballfield is the allowed regulation. With this fact, questions were raised such as the validity of 50 people per ballfield sized spaces for an outdoor concert type event. The decision-making entities may not comprehend our parks needs and operations. Our agencies need to communicate these needs and the inconsistencies they are outlining in guidance that is being established. For example, in areas where farmers markets are allowed, 150 people can travel through the farmers market and purchase food but can't sit outside at the edge of the farmers market, dispersed, in order to eat the food. The Safe Start Template currently includes the need for a COVID safe site supervisor. This is a tool to help departments consider management of all service categories. This is not required to be submitted for approval but is good to have for procedure development as well as recordkeeping.

4) **Announcement – Joint WRPA-ORPA Aquatics Roundtable Discussion**

a. 2:30pm, Thursday, June 11th.

This call will focus on the reality of what aquatics services and programs will look like. Jon Snyder from the Governor's office and two public health officials will be on the call. Please bring your aquatics related questions.

5) **Group share/Questions for the Group/Roundtable**

- The safety/reactivation plan will be added as a future agenda topic.
- Future discussion to be had regarding operation plans if counties must retract (move backward) along the Phase plan.
- The Phase III business template was shared. Please visit the following link for more information:
https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/BusinessTemplate_Phase3_1.pdf
- The cities of Lake Stevens, Marysville, Kenmore, and several other park agencies will keep their playgrounds closed until Phase III.
- Pierce County was able to share a flyer depicting the closure of playgrounds. The flyer is available at the following link:
https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.tpchd.org%2fhome%2fshowdocument%3fid%3d6492&c=E,1,-wEVo8-iknk7MAI8y6pk19-E33WSutUDgKcHbbUVH0TMr8iC3wNPwwPcxUOr_ZyHI5Wkt0DhieYxI_j7-V9LzZnBHtwbMTp_AY8VGZNBxmk,&typo=1
- The current status of local school district partnerships was requested as a future meeting topic. It may be helpful to request the attendance of an OSPI representative as well.
- Discussion was raised regarding the current climate of the nation and the importance of utilizing an equity lens throughout our departments and considering/eliminating implicit biases.
- This year's Tacoma conference was intended to focus on equity. What was formally known as the Cultural Competency Committee was slated to be renamed as the Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee. Due to COVID19 this conference

didn't launch in April as planned. There are currently caucuses planned to share, unpack, and reflect on the recent events across the nation. Contact Paul Simmons to get more involved

- If there are other ideas/thoughts/recommendations for agenda topics, please email: peterm@tacomaparks.com and/or Travis at tstombaugh@siviewpark.org

Meeting Adjourned 1:03PM

Respectfully Submitted

Emily Young

Administrative Coordinator

City of Everett Parks and Community Services