



# HOOPA VALLEY TRIBAL OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

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## Public Service Announcement

March 23, 2020

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### Dear Hoopa Valley Tribal Members and Community,

We want to inform everyone on what the COVID-19 Response Team has been working on over the past week to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to the Valley. The number one priority of the COVID-19 Response Team is to assist the Incident Commander in planning for the best course of action to take in a scenario that a positive case occurs in the Valley.

Two digital signboards are ordered in an effort to limit the chance of exposure from COVID-19 from outside communities. One sign will be placed at each end of the valley along SR-96. The messaging of this sign is limited as it needs to be approved by the CHP and CalTrans as they will be in the Right of Way for the state.

The tribe legally can not close down SR-96. Although we are seeking alternative solutions for the right of way on state route 96. Our highest priority is keeping the virus out of our valley and keeping our elders, children and vulnerable populations safe.

Based on the data reported from various health organizations, the spread of this virus is progressing quickly.

The best thing you can do is to follow the recommended social distancing measures and the Order to Shelter in Place, that was issued by the Tribe on March 19, 2020. This will help to slow the potential transmission of COVID-19 and give the Response Time additional to develop a plan that is effective and efficient. We know that this may be hard to do and is not fun but we can not stress this enough.

We understand that communication has been slow and apologize for any inconvenience or frustration this has caused. The Response Team is developing two resources to address this issue: 1) a website is being developed so that you can find relevant data in one place and 2) a hotline phone number to call so that you may listen to these announcements on demand and leave a voicemail for any comments or concerns.

Tribal Police are moving to 5-12 hour shifts.