

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Contact: Thomas J. Haglund, Interim City Manager
thaglund@cityofgalt.org - 209-366-7100; or
Armando Solis, Parks & Recreation Director
asolis@cityofgalt.org – 209-366-7180

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THE GALT MARKET TO REOPEN TO PROVIDE FRESH PRODUCE, DRY GOODS, HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS TO THE COMMUNITY

On March 13, 2020, after consulting the Sacramento County Health Department, the City of Galt made the unprecedented decision to suspend The Galt Market operations due to the growing concerns of Coronavirus-19 (COVID-19).

On March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Public Health Order directing all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, except as needed to maintain continuity of operation of the federal critical infrastructure sectors. The Governor's mandate specifies that the supply chain must continue, and Californians must have access to such necessities as food, prescriptions, and health care. The Order further provides that farmers markets serve as a vital access point for nutritious food in communities and therefore are considered to be an essential service.

Galt emergency managers conducted a careful review of the Governor's mandate, and consulted with the Sacramento County Department of Public Health ("SCDPH") regarding a *Galt Market* reopening plan to bring additional supplies of necessary food stuffs and household items to the Community. With SCDPH approval of the reopening conditions, the City of Galt has developed a plan to reopen *The Galt Market* in a redesigned format that incorporates the COVID-19 safety guidelines issued by the State and County departments of public health. This new adaptation of *The Galt Market* will offer the sale of essential goods and products, including: fresh fruits and vegetables; canned and pre-packaged foods; dry/canned goods and nuts; household items; and, personal hygiene products. It is our firm conviction that farmers markets, such as *The Galt Market*, are imperative to the local community and that shopping for goods in this environment continues to be a safe activity. Like grocery stores and other food retail outlets, *The Galt Market* serves an essential function as a vital source of fresh fruits and vegetables and food staples for our community. Additionally, the outdoor open-air setting of *The Galt Market* offers optimal ventilation and sunlight for shopping in an unconfined space.

The health and safety of our community members is paramount during this time and the City is committed to implementing new policies and procedures to ensure that consumers are protected. In accordance with public health guidelines, the following safety measures are being enacted with the reopening of *The Galt Market*:

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- Vendor booths will be spaced 20 feet apart.
- No prepared food vendors will be allowed.
- Food sampling will be prohibited.
- Handwashing stations will be placed throughout the grounds.
- Tables and benches will be removed from the grounds to ensure that customers do not gather.
- Limiting the number of customers to reduce crowding and lines to meet social distancing guidelines.
- Ensure social distancing of 6 feet to be maintained amongst all shoppers.
- Increased cleaning and sanitizing of tables, payment devices and other surfaces.
- Encourage activities such as pre-bagging to expedite purchasing.
- In addition to these steps, we will be continuing with best practices of utilizing clean gloves and changing them frequently throughout the day, increased cleaning.

This redesign and plan was developed under guidance of the City's emergency management team and reviewed and approved by the SCDPH. The Galt Market will reopen for business on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, and continue normal business hours of 7:00 am to 2:00 pm every Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Galt Market is located just west of Highway 99. Take the Central Galt Exit and turn left at Civic Drive.

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