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PRESS RELEASE

CITY TO CLOSE ALL DOWNEY PARKS ON MOTHER'S DAY, SUNDAY MAY 10 DUE TO COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Downey, CA, May 1, 2020:

Following the lead of the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation (LA County Parks), the City of Downey will be closing all City parks to the public on **Sunday, May 10**, in an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19. An anticipated influx of visitors to parks on Mother's Day would make it extremely difficult for the public to adhere to the County's "Safer at Home" Order, which requires six feet of physical distance and prohibits group gatherings.

"We encourage our residents to celebrate Mother's Day safely at home and continue to follow the County order so that together we can keep flattening the curve of COVID-19," said Mayor Blanca Pacheco.

Open and free for the public is "[DOWNEYathome](#)," a virtual recreation center that the City launched on April 29, to provide free access to fitness and instructional classes for the public to enjoy from home during the COVID-19 crisis. This free online programming includes videos of Downey Parks & Recreation staff teaching recreation, sports, and arts & crafts activities.

Mayor Pro Tem Claudia M. Frometa added, "The City's new virtual recreation center provides residents with the opportunity to remain engaged in various activities that promote physical and emotional well-being. I encourage everyone to log-on to [DOWNEYathome](#)."

The Downey Police Department will be monitoring the parks on Mother's Day to ensure residents are aware of the closures.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE