



CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

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Covid-19 Library Access

With the recent global pandemic declaration by the World Health Organization and the President of the United States involving the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus), the Kearney Public Library intends to take realistic, responsible steps to ensure our continued ability to provide library service for the City of Kearney. Public safety and the safety of our staff are our number one priority. I have consulted City Manager Mike Morgan and directed the following steps be implemented immediately to protect our workforce and the public, while ensuring continuity of operations during this crisis.

1. All public meetings and study room uses are suspended and will resume on April 6, if possible. Reservations will not be taken for study rooms and meeting rooms until April 6.
2. All library programming is suspended and will resume on April 6, if possible.
3. The bookmobile will suspend its route and will resume April 6, if possible.
4. Members of KPL are prohibited from attending non-essential meetings when 20 or more people are attending. Staff are encouraged to attend remotely.
5. Out of town travel and training for members of KPL is suspended until further notice.
6. Patrons are encouraged not to return any items until April 6. Any fines will be waived during this time period.
7. The computer lab and makerspace will be closed and will resume hours on April 6, if possible.
8. Stay home if you are sick. Practice regular hand washing and cleaning.

The main library will remain open to serve needs of the public and we will continue our online presence, including the online catalog and online databases, as well as access to Overdrive and RBDigital for eBooks and downloadable audio books. Phone access for staff help will also be available. Our goal is to maintain the level of service Kearney residents expect as we work through the impact of COVID-19. We look forward to restoring normal operations and will monitor this crisis closely.

Check out our web site at www.cityofkearney.org.

We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.

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