



The 24TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL
Office of the Speaker



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City of Gallup lockdown extended to noon, May 7

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 3, 2020

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

CITY OF GALLUP, N.M. LOCKDOWN

—EXTENDED—

MAY 1-7, 2020 AT 12:00 PM

City of Gallup closure extended by 3 days. Effective at 12:00 PM, May 1, all roads into Gallup are closed. Businesses in the City of Gallup will close from 5:00 PM through 8:00 AM. Vehicles may only have a maximum of two individuals. Residents of the city should remain at home except for emergency outings and those essential for health, safety and welfare. Essential employees will be allowed passage.

More information: <https://www.gallupnm.gov/>

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham notified the Navajo Nation Office of the Speaker Sunday afternoon that the City of Gallup will continue to be closed through Thursday, May 7 under a state of emergency. The lockdown furthers government efforts to enforce social distancing and thereby interrupt the transmission of the coronavirus (COVID-19) from person-to-person.

Gov. Lujan Grisham issued Executive Order 2020-027 on Friday closing all roads into Gallup, N.M. and to close businesses from 5:00 PM - 8:00 AM. That order was set to expire at noon on Monday, May 4.

Gallup Mayor Louie Bonaguidi sent a letter (attached) to Gov. Lujan Grisham, dated May 3, 2020, requesting the extension of the state of emergency in the city. Mayor Bonaguidi acknowledged the use of the state's Riot Control Act was a drastic, but necessary, action to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The Gallup city police, McKinley County sheriff's department, New Mexico State Police and the Department of Transportation partnered to patrol and enforce the closure of Gallup roads.

1,144 positive cases of COVID-19 were reported in McKinley County Sunday evening. The county has the most positive cases in New Mexico.

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CONTACT EMAIL: nnlb.communications@gmail.com

Byron C. Shorty, INT Communications Director, (928) 287-2085.



Mayor Louis Bonaguidi
Councilor Linda Garcia, District 1
Councilor Michael Schaaf, District 2
Councilor Yogash Kumar, District 3
Councilor Fran Paloachak, District 4

Maryann Ustick, City Manager
Curtis Hayes, City Attorney

May 3, 2020

Dear Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham,

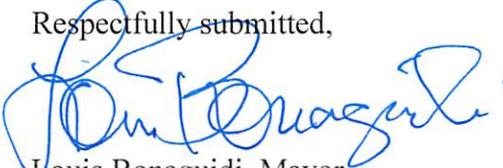
Pursuant to NMSA 1978 §§ 12-10-16 through 12-10-21 (“the Riot Control Act”), I respectfully ask that you extend the state of emergency pursuant within the boundaries of the City of Gallup. This request is being made as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak in our community, which constitutes an unprecedented health crisis. The virus has caused many deaths, stretched our medical facilities and resources to their capacity, and adversely impacted the welfare of the City of Gallup. Our community is unable to adequately address the outbreak without the continued imposition of certain restrictions necessary to regulate social distancing, public gatherings, sales of good, and the use of public streets. See generally, NMSA 1978, § 12-10-18 (2005).

I recognize this request is unusual and constitutes a drastic measure, and the emergency powers set out under the Riot Control Act should be invoked sparingly. However, the COVID-19 outbreak in the City of Gallup is a crisis of the highest order. Continued action is necessary. Only through the extension of the invocation of your authority under the Riot Control Act can our community impose the measures necessary to stem transmission of COVID-19. Your continued support with law enforcement agencies, NMDOT, and the National Guard unit are requested.

We will continue to collaborate with your office regarding the specific restrictions necessary to address this crisis. However, we request that you change the evening hours of the curfew on businesses from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. to allow essential workers access to groceries and food after work. Further, we have determined that the situation warrants your continued exercise of authority.

Please use the mayor@gallupnm.gov as your email contact and I can be reached at (505) 863-1221.

Respectfully submitted,



Louis Bonaguidi, Mayor
City of Gallup