

# Webinar

## Confronting COVID-19: Parks, Public Spaces, and the Pandemic

Date: May 05, 2020

00:00:00 --> 00:00:03: Welcome everyone to this global. You allian NRP a webinar.

00:00:03 --> 00:00:07: I'm Rachel mcclery. I'm senior vice president at the Urban

00:00:07 --> 00:00:08: Land Institute,

00:00:08 --> 00:00:09: an on behalf of you,

00:00:09 --> 00:00:12: a lie. I would like to welcome you to this

00:00:12 --> 00:00:14: global webinar on the coronavirus.

00:00:14 --> 00:00:18: Today we'll be focusing on parks and public spaces and

00:00:18 --> 00:00:21: how the pandemic is affecting them and making them more

00:00:21 --> 00:00:22: relevant than ever.

00:00:22 --> 00:00:26: As this crisis drags on and people in many places

00:00:26 --> 00:00:28: are being asked to stay home,

00:00:28 --> 00:00:32: parks and public spaces have become even more essential

00:00:32 --> 00:00:33: as

00:00:32 --> 00:00:33: places of refuge,

00:00:33 --> 00:00:37: respite, reflection, an exercise. And yet we know that access

00:00:37 --> 00:00:41: to parks is not equally available to everyone and that

00:00:41 --> 00:00:44: it that at times usage of public spaces seems to

00:00:44 --> 00:00:49: violate social distancing guidelines. So what can be done to

00:00:49 --> 00:00:53: maximize the benefits of public spaces and avoid pitfalls

00:00:53 --> 00:00:54: during

00:00:53 --> 00:00:54: this crisis?

00:00:54 --> 00:00:58: The Urban Land Institute is a research and education

00:00:58 --> 00:01:01: nonprofit

00:00:58 --> 00:01:01: whose mission is to provide leadership in the responsible use

00:01:01 --> 00:01:02: of land.

00:01:02 --> 00:01:05: An in creating and sustaining thriving communities

00:01:05 --> 00:01:06: worldwide.

00:01:05 --> 00:01:06: If you're new to you,

00:01:06 --> 00:01:09: well, I welcome. We hope that you find this web

00:01:09 --> 00:01:12: and are helpful and that you will consider joining you.

00:01:12 --> 00:01:15: Aliza member membership comes with a range of benefits,  
 00:01:15 --> 00:01:18: including access to member only content and more.  
 00:01:18 --> 00:01:22: You will I launch the building Healthy Places Initiative and  
 00:01:22 --> 00:01:25: 2013 out of a recognition that place shapes health and  
 00:01:25 --> 00:01:28: through the years we've worked to leverage the power of  
 00:01:28 --> 00:01:31: you, allies global networks to shape projects in places in  
 00:01:31 --> 00:01:34: ways that improve the health of people and communities.  
 00:01:34 --> 00:01:37: And we've worked with thousands of ULI members and  
 partners  
 00:01:37 --> 00:01:39: to explore the intersections of health,  
 00:01:39 --> 00:01:41: social equity and real estate.  
 00:01:41 --> 00:01:43: As the pandemic continues in,  
 00:01:43 --> 00:01:46: its impacts reverberate throughout the ULI membership.  
 00:01:46 --> 00:01:49: You lie is working to help members and cities understand  
 00:01:49 --> 00:01:52: the current landscape in anticipate what is to come.  
 00:01:52 --> 00:01:55: It is becoming clearer and clearer that the pandemic is  
 00:01:55 --> 00:01:58: not a temporary set back and then we are confronting  
 00:01:58 --> 00:02:02: a durable and damaging public health and economic crisis  
 that  
 00:02:02 --> 00:02:06: will number among American history's greatest upheavals.  
 00:02:06 --> 00:02:07: And yet all is not lost.  
 00:02:07 --> 00:02:11: History has shown us that from calamities like this one  
 00:02:11 --> 00:02:15: great progress in efforts to enhance social equity and  
 increased  
 00:02:15 --> 00:02:19: measures to provide opportunity for all as possible.  
 00:02:19 --> 00:02:22: Part of the programming that you'll I am building healthy  
 00:02:22 --> 00:02:25: places is offering from members is a coronavirus focused  
 webinars  
 00:02:25 --> 00:02:28: series since about mid March we've been working to share  
 00:02:28 --> 00:02:31: expert perspectives and advice with you,  
 00:02:31 --> 00:02:33: align members and partners, and our goal with the Web  
 00:02:33 --> 00:02:34: and R series.  
 00:02:34 --> 00:02:38: Another coronavirus information programming is to give you  
 insights and  
 00:02:38 --> 00:02:41: information that will help you do all you can to  
 00:02:41 --> 00:02:44: help prevent the spread of the virus to navigate the  
 00:02:44 --> 00:02:47: business and planning impacts to help mitigate the impact of  
 00:02:47 --> 00:02:50: this crisis on communities and vulnerable people.  
 00:02:50 --> 00:02:53: And to ensure that the recovery from this virus is  
 00:02:53 --> 00:02:53: equitable,  
 00:02:53 --> 00:02:57: an enduringly resilient links to various you lie resources are  
 00:02:57 --> 00:02:58: available on our issue page.  
 00:02:58 --> 00:03:02: You will i.org/COVID-19 an are also on line at you

00:03:02 --> 00:03:04: at the Urban Land magazine.

00:03:04 --> 00:03:07: We're sharing this web and R and all related content

00:03:07 --> 00:03:10: in the spirit of information sharing and education,

00:03:10 --> 00:03:14: please see the statement for further important disclaimers.

00:03:14 --> 00:03:15: So today, as you know,

00:03:15 --> 00:03:17: will focus on park parks and public spaces.

00:03:17 --> 00:03:20: Next we week, we'll hear insights from Asia and then

00:03:20 --> 00:03:23: we'll take a break from the series and there will

00:03:23 --> 00:03:26: be a number of webinars on various topics as we

00:03:26 --> 00:03:29: roll out our spring meeting programming virtually.

00:03:29 --> 00:03:33: An webinars are being recorded on a recording of this

00:03:33 --> 00:03:37: webinar will be shared by email with registrants Emily also

00:03:37 --> 00:03:39: be posted to Knowledge Finder.

00:03:39 --> 00:03:42: You can find this web and R and then in

00:03:42 --> 00:03:45: a week or a couple of days and all past

00:03:45 --> 00:03:49: webinars at the Knowledge Finder site at [knowledge.ui.org](http://knowledge.ui.org).

00:03:49 --> 00:03:52: For the past few years he will lie has partnered

00:03:52 --> 00:03:55: with National Recreation and Park Association,

00:03:55 --> 00:03:58: the Trust for Public Land on efforts to ensure that

00:03:58 --> 00:04:01: everyone has access to a high quality park within a

00:04:01 --> 00:04:04: 10 minute walk of home and the 10 minute walk

00:04:04 --> 00:04:07: is part of a national movement dedicated to improving access

00:04:07 --> 00:04:10: to safe quality parks and green spaces across the United

00:04:10 --> 00:04:11: States,

00:04:11 --> 00:04:14: which has been endorsed by hundreds of mayors in cities

00:04:14 --> 00:04:15: across the country.

00:04:15 --> 00:04:19: The webinar was jointly organized by ULI&RPA with an

00:04:19 --> 00:04:22: assist

00:04:19 --> 00:04:22: from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

00:04:22 --> 00:04:26: Our CDC friend and colleague Chris Katynski helped

00:04:22 --> 00:04:26: connect.

00:04:26 --> 00:04:29: You lie with CDC experts on this web and R,

00:04:29 --> 00:04:32: and sadly, Chris passed away this past weekend.

00:04:32 --> 00:04:35: We will miss him so very much and you will.

00:04:35 --> 00:04:38: I send our sincerest condolences to his friends,

00:04:38 --> 00:04:43: family and CDC colleagues. He was truly one in a

00:04:43 --> 00:04:44: million.

00:04:44 --> 00:04:47: You lie has had the pleasure of working with an

00:04:47 --> 00:04:47: RPA.

00:04:47 --> 00:04:50: Is Rachel Banner over the course of the tenant?

00:04:50 --> 00:04:54: Lock him bank campaign and she'll be are moderate are

00:04:54 --> 00:04:57: for today's webinar at an RPA she designed strategy and

00:04:57 --> 00:05:01: manage is a team to deliver training technical assistance

grants,  
00:05:01 --> 00:05:06: research, evaluation and communications to ensure park professionals have the  
00:05:06 --> 00:05:10: tools to improve communities through equitable access to high quality  
00:05:10 --> 00:05:10: parks.  
00:05:10 --> 00:05:12: Rachel great, thanks so much,  
00:05:12 --> 00:05:16: Rachel. And it's wonderful to be with all of you  
00:05:16 --> 00:05:21: today and certainly appreciate the opportunity to continue a wonderful  
00:05:21 --> 00:05:26: partnership with the Urban Land Institute to highlight the critical  
00:05:26 --> 00:05:28: role of parks, public spaces,  
00:05:28 --> 00:05:32: and particularly in the time of this pandemic.  
00:05:32 --> 00:05:35: And so. Now I'm going to introduce our panelists.  
00:05:35 --> 00:05:39: It really excited to be hearing from all of these  
00:05:39 --> 00:05:39: folks.  
00:05:39 --> 00:05:43: We have Nicholas Williams from the City of Oakland,  
00:05:43 --> 00:05:46: Parks Recreation and Youth development.  
00:05:46 --> 00:05:50: Director of the agency there we have the Commissioner of  
00:05:51 --> 00:05:55: the Philadelphia Parks and Recreation Anne Catherine at level and  
00:05:55 --> 00:05:58: then we have our colleagues from the CDC,  
00:05:58 --> 00:06:01: Janet Fulton and Jennifer Murphy Janet.  
00:06:01 --> 00:06:05: We've been working with for a number of years as  
00:06:05 --> 00:06:09: the Chief of the physical Activity and Health Branch,  
00:06:09 --> 00:06:13: and Jennifer Murphy has been leading an response from the  
00:06:13 --> 00:06:16: coronavirus community intervention and at risk.  
00:06:16 --> 00:06:21: Task force I'm going to move right into our presentation  
00:06:21 --> 00:06:24: so that we can dive into content and hear from  
00:06:25 --> 00:06:26: these wonderful speakers.  
00:06:29 --> 00:06:32: So like Rachel mention, I am the director of Park  
00:06:32 --> 00:06:36: access at the National Recreation and Park Association.  
00:06:36 --> 00:06:41: We are the national nonprofit that represents park professionals from  
00:06:41 --> 00:06:42: across the country.  
00:06:42 --> 00:06:46: 65,000 Strong who are managing our parks and open spaces  
00:06:46 --> 00:06:50: currently responding to the coronavirus pandemic,  
00:06:50 --> 00:06:54: not just by keeping our parks and public spaces open,  
00:06:54 --> 00:06:56: but opening up homeless shelters,  
00:06:56 --> 00:06:59: providing our communities with meals.  
00:06:59 --> 00:07:03: Especially for those who are unable to afford them and  
00:07:03 --> 00:07:06: stepping in an innovative and creative ways.

00:07:06 --> 00:07:10: But just making masks and hand Santa sanitizer for their  
00:07:10 --> 00:07:13: health care workers and RPA has been responding to the  
00:07:14 --> 00:07:16: Corona virus from the beginning.  
00:07:16 --> 00:07:19: We know that at a time when most other public  
00:07:19 --> 00:07:21: spaces in our communities remain shut,  
00:07:21 --> 00:07:25: parks and open spaces are one of the only destinations  
00:07:25 --> 00:07:29: that people can get outside can get a breath of  
00:07:29 --> 00:07:29: fresh air.  
00:07:29 --> 00:07:33: Exercise and respite. So at the beginning of this crisis,  
00:07:33 --> 00:07:37: we wanted to ensure that the public understood how to  
00:07:37 --> 00:07:41: safely utilize public parks and open space and have been  
00:07:41 --> 00:07:45: supporting not just the park professionals but our community  
is  
00:07:45 --> 00:07:49: in being able to get outside while ensuring physical distance  
00:07:49 --> 00:07:50: thing.  
00:07:50 --> 00:07:53: So this was one of the first resources an RPA  
00:07:53 --> 00:07:57: created to promote the use of public parks and open  
00:07:57 --> 00:08:00: space during coronavirus we have sense.  
00:08:00 --> 00:08:05: Increase tremendously, the amount of resources that we are  
providing  
00:08:05 --> 00:08:09: to support the park and recreation professionals who are on  
00:08:09 --> 00:08:12: the ground responding to this crisis everyday.  
00:08:12 --> 00:08:17: This includes resources that are helping to slow the spread  
00:08:17 --> 00:08:18: of COVID-19,  
00:08:18 --> 00:08:21: such as the graphic that you just saw.  
00:08:21 --> 00:08:24: We now have resources for the path to recovery.  
00:08:24 --> 00:08:29: So how do park and recreation professionals and their  
partners  
00:08:30 --> 00:08:31: helped to begin?  
00:08:31 --> 00:08:35: The process of opening up spaces and places as the  
00:08:35 --> 00:08:37: virus does diminish in our communities.  
00:08:37 --> 00:08:41: And then finally we have tools that enhance the and  
00:08:41 --> 00:08:46: provide talking points for the essential role of Parks and  
00:08:46 --> 00:08:46: Recreation.  
00:08:46 --> 00:08:50: This includes a joint statement on using parks and open  
00:08:50 --> 00:08:56: space while maintaining physical distancing that has over  
1000 supporters.  
00:08:56 --> 00:09:01: And it would encourage anybody on this call to continue  
00:09:01 --> 00:09:03: joining that statement.  
00:09:03 --> 00:09:06: We've also done a number of surveys of the field.  
00:09:06 --> 00:09:10: Again, the importance of parks and open space during this  
00:09:10 --> 00:09:11: crisis,  
00:09:11 --> 00:09:13: as can be seen both by the public.

00:09:13 --> 00:09:15: So we're finding that 83%  
00:09:15 --> 00:09:18: of adults find exercising at local parks,  
00:09:18 --> 00:09:23: trails and open space is essential to maintaining their mental  
00:09:23 --> 00:09:26: and physical health during the COVID-19 pandemic,  
00:09:26 --> 00:09:30: and that 59% of respondents say it is very or  
00:09:30 --> 00:09:33: extremely essential to exercise and parks.  
00:09:33 --> 00:09:38: And greenspaces to relieve stress and remain healthy during  
this  
00:09:38 --> 00:09:38: crisis.  
00:09:38 --> 00:09:41: So we want to do all we can to protect  
00:09:41 --> 00:09:42: these spaces,  
00:09:42 --> 00:09:45: but also to support the park and recreation professionals who  
00:09:45 --> 00:09:47: are making these places possible.  
00:09:47 --> 00:09:50: One of those things has been to conduct a weekly  
00:09:50 --> 00:09:51: survey.  
00:09:51 --> 00:09:54: We'll start to see some of the takeaways.  
00:09:54 --> 00:09:57: Time from our professional members,  
00:09:57 --> 00:10:01: as we've done weekly snapshots of what is the state  
00:10:01 --> 00:10:02: of the field?  
00:10:02 --> 00:10:06: And as most of you are likely seeing in your  
00:10:06 --> 00:10:07: community,  
00:10:07 --> 00:10:11: is most parks, trails, community gardens do remain open,  
00:10:11 --> 00:10:15: and this is actually a small uptick from once we  
00:10:15 --> 00:10:17: started doing this survey.  
00:10:17 --> 00:10:20: So about 90% of trails are open,  
00:10:20 --> 00:10:24: 77% of parks of good number of community gardens,  
00:10:24 --> 00:10:27: but we do see that most agencies are tending to  
00:10:27 --> 00:10:31: keep closed other amenities in their communities,  
00:10:31 --> 00:10:34: such as campgrounds, basketball courts.  
00:10:34 --> 00:10:37: Beaches, dog parks and the like.  
00:10:37 --> 00:10:41: You'll see sort of. We have moved into this phase  
00:10:41 --> 00:10:44: of recovery and some of the places that the urban  
00:10:44 --> 00:10:49: park leaders are targeting in that first phase of reopening  
00:10:49 --> 00:10:52: include restrooms, outdoor sports fields,  
00:10:52 --> 00:10:56: picnic areas, call for an golf courses so well.  
00:10:56 --> 00:11:00: Not all communities are at a stage where they are  
00:11:00 --> 00:11:04: able to reopen when they are planning to begin doing  
00:11:04 --> 00:11:04: so.  
00:11:04 --> 00:11:07: These are some of the places that will.  
00:11:07 --> 00:11:09: The first on their list.  
00:11:09 --> 00:11:14: Another big piece of an role of Parks and Recreation  
00:11:14 --> 00:11:18: agencies is to provide summer meals to children and families

00:11:19 --> 00:11:20: in the community.  
00:11:20 --> 00:11:23: And so as we sort of dive into the summer  
00:11:23 --> 00:11:24: months,  
00:11:24 --> 00:11:28: 2/3 of agencies are planning to continue.  
00:11:28 --> 00:11:32: Providing this best critical service to their communities,  
00:11:32 --> 00:11:36: even if summer youth program cramming is canceled but  
30%  
00:11:36 --> 00:11:41: of agencies summer meal plans are on hold.  
00:11:41 --> 00:11:44: And then finally in this line this past week of  
00:11:45 --> 00:11:47: Park Snapshot survey data,  
00:11:47 --> 00:11:51: we are finding that summer plans continue to remain on  
00:11:51 --> 00:11:53: hold at most agencies.  
00:11:53 --> 00:11:58: Top summer plans that are moving forward include farmers  
markets,  
00:11:58 --> 00:12:03: summer camps for children of health care providers and first  
00:12:03 --> 00:12:04: responders,  
00:12:04 --> 00:12:09: and about 20% for 4th of July fireworks camps for  
00:12:09 --> 00:12:11: general public and outdoor pools.  
00:12:11 --> 00:12:15: But we are seeing that summer plans are starting to  
00:12:15 --> 00:12:18: be cancelled and that includes 5K races,  
00:12:18 --> 00:12:22: festivals, and again those 4th of July fireworks.  
00:12:22 --> 00:12:25: This is just a little bit of insight into our  
00:12:25 --> 00:12:26: weekly Park Snapshot survey,  
00:12:26 --> 00:12:30: but these data change and the questions change every  
week.  
00:12:30 --> 00:12:34: So if you're interested in following the field and  
understanding  
00:12:34 --> 00:12:38: how Parks and Recreation and are responding and  
encourage you  
00:12:38 --> 00:12:39: to check them out,  
00:12:39 --> 00:12:42: one thing that was not included on this past correct  
00:12:42 --> 00:12:46: Snapshot survey is the state of the financial field of  
00:12:46 --> 00:12:47: Parks and Recreation,  
00:12:47 --> 00:12:50: and I think that this is a critical component to  
00:12:50 --> 00:12:53: highlight on today's web and R into continue to lift  
00:12:53 --> 00:12:55: up as we move through this.  
00:12:55 --> 00:13:00: And I'm at our parking recreation agencies right now are  
00:13:00 --> 00:13:02: stretched to the Max.  
00:13:02 --> 00:13:07: I have seen, again, a tremendous response from these  
professionals  
00:13:07 --> 00:13:08: during this crisis,  
00:13:08 --> 00:13:10: but they are and will continue to be,  
00:13:10 --> 00:13:13: poised for significant budget cuts.

00:13:13 --> 00:13:15: On from a few weeks ago,  
00:13:15 --> 00:13:17: in the Park Snapshot survey,  
00:13:17 --> 00:13:21: we found that nearly half of all agencies have received  
00:13:21 --> 00:13:25: requests make cuts to their current fiscal year budget,  
00:13:25 --> 00:13:29: and this budget cut has been on average up to  
00:13:29 --> 00:13:29: 20%.  
00:13:29 --> 00:13:31: We're also finding that about 30%  
00:13:31 --> 00:13:35: of agencies are ready making cuts to the next fiscal  
00:13:35 --> 00:13:36: year's budget,  
00:13:36 --> 00:13:41: and we know that this will likely continue along these  
00:13:41 --> 00:13:42: trends.  
00:13:42 --> 00:13:44: We know that from the last recession,  
00:13:44 --> 00:13:48: Parks and Recreation were amongst the hardest hit services,  
00:13:48 --> 00:13:52: and the government budgets and were the slowest to  
recover.  
00:13:52 --> 00:13:56: It's essential that these spaces continue to receive the  
funding  
00:13:57 --> 00:14:00: needed to ensure that we can provide access to all,  
00:14:00 --> 00:14:03: both in times of calm and in crisis is like  
00:14:03 --> 00:14:03: today.  
00:14:03 --> 00:14:06: Not only do they improve our health,  
00:14:06 --> 00:14:09: but they also can help contribute to economic growth in  
00:14:10 --> 00:14:11: our communities and RPA.  
00:14:11 --> 00:14:14: Just released. Our annual Economic Impact Survey,  
00:14:14 --> 00:14:18: which I encourage everyone to check out.  
00:14:18 --> 00:14:21: I'm going to stop talking for now because I think  
00:14:21 --> 00:14:24: we have some wonderful full speakers who can provide more  
00:14:25 --> 00:14:28: color and details about what's happening in local  
communities.  
00:14:28 --> 00:14:30: So I'm going to pass that over to our our  
00:14:30 --> 00:14:32: champions and our heroes.  
00:14:32 --> 00:14:36: At this time, our local Parks and Recreation profession.  
00:14:36 --> 00:14:38: Thank you very much, Rachel,  
00:14:38 --> 00:14:40: and thank you to the Urban Land Institute and the  
00:14:41 --> 00:14:45: National Park Recreation and Parks Association for the  
opportunity to  
00:14:45 --> 00:14:47: share what's happening out in Oakland,  
00:14:47 --> 00:14:49: CA. So thank you. So again,  
00:14:49 --> 00:14:52: my name is Nicholas Williams and the Director of Parks,  
00:14:52 --> 00:14:55: Recreation and Youth Development for the City of Oakland,  
00:14:55 --> 00:14:58: CA. Want to send a shout out to all of  
00:14:58 --> 00:15:01: my OPR yd staff and employees who are watching and  
00:15:01 --> 00:15:02: cheering us on Haiti.



00:15:02 --> 00:15:05: Thank you, thank you for being a part of this  
00:15:05 --> 00:15:07: team and thank you for this hard work.  
00:15:07 --> 00:15:11: During this time, so Oakland had an initial response that  
00:15:11 --> 00:15:13: was basically in line with the,  
00:15:13 --> 00:15:17: you know, the national Recreation and Parks Association and  
all  
00:15:17 --> 00:15:20: of our brothers and sister parks across the nation.  
00:15:20 --> 00:15:23: Our initial response was was just to put out some  
00:15:23 --> 00:15:27: information we spend most of our time talking with people  
00:15:27 --> 00:15:29: to get outside in their parks,  
00:15:29 --> 00:15:32: to go outside and to walk to recreat to get  
00:15:32 --> 00:15:33: some fresh air.  
00:15:33 --> 00:15:36: An when covid set in and we were in sheltering  
00:15:36 --> 00:15:37: in place.  
00:15:37 --> 00:15:40: The parks became one of the only places that people  
00:15:40 --> 00:15:41: had to get out,  
00:15:41 --> 00:15:45: get fresh air, sort of keep their mental mentalities together,  
00:15:45 --> 00:15:47: and be able to get out of the house a  
00:15:47 --> 00:15:48: little bit.  
00:15:48 --> 00:15:51: So our initial response was to keep things as open  
00:15:51 --> 00:15:52: as possible.  
00:15:52 --> 00:15:55: So we used messaging that you see here to do  
00:15:55 --> 00:15:56: your part to you know,  
00:15:56 --> 00:16:00: please avoid group gatherings, maintaining social distancing  
an if you  
00:16:00 --> 00:16:01: have symptoms.  
00:16:01 --> 00:16:05: Please stay home. We very much appreciate that parks and  
00:16:05 --> 00:16:08: green spaces are important for so many people on so  
00:16:08 --> 00:16:09: many levels.  
00:16:09 --> 00:16:11: The need for mental healing,  
00:16:11 --> 00:16:13: physical activity and fresh air,  
00:16:13 --> 00:16:16: and this was really only the the outlet that people  
00:16:16 --> 00:16:18: have from their homes.  
00:16:18 --> 00:16:21: So are initially our signs were very passive and our  
00:16:21 --> 00:16:26: again our response was consistently aligned with national  
and Community  
00:16:26 --> 00:16:27: recommendations.  
00:16:27 --> 00:16:29: We use social media, Facebook,  
00:16:29 --> 00:16:32: Instagram as well as RE newsletters to educate about the  
00:16:32 --> 00:16:36: COVID-19 and then as things became more serious we had  
00:16:36 --> 00:16:37: to change our response.  
00:16:37 --> 00:16:41: Our science moved from more passive to more direct.  
00:16:41 --> 00:16:44: And this is our first phase when we've had to

00:16:44 --> 00:16:45: begin to close amenities.

00:16:45 --> 00:16:48: So this is when we first began to close down

00:16:48 --> 00:16:49: playgrounds courts.

00:16:49 --> 00:16:51: An can't close contact sports fields,

00:16:51 --> 00:16:54: and this is due to the revised order from the

00:16:54 --> 00:16:56: County Health Department.

00:16:56 --> 00:16:59: We closed all of our main parking lots and main

00:16:59 --> 00:17:02: thoroughfares that went through our larger parks.

00:17:02 --> 00:17:04: And we did this more to encourage people to use

00:17:04 --> 00:17:08: their neighborhood parks rather than driving to the more busy

00:17:08 --> 00:17:12: regional parks and to encourage a more neighborhood or

00:17:12 --> 00:17:14: community

00:17:12 --> 00:17:14: use. Aparks during that time,

00:17:14 --> 00:17:16: so we ran into some challenges.

00:17:16 --> 00:17:20: We Oakland weather is really getting very nice for the

00:17:20 --> 00:17:24: last couple of weeks we've been seeing 70 degrees and

00:17:24 --> 00:17:26: above and so we're in,

00:17:26 --> 00:17:29: you know, weeks upon weeks five and six weeks on

00:17:29 --> 00:17:31: shelter in place.

00:17:31 --> 00:17:35: People are getting antsy and so we're beginning to see

00:17:35 --> 00:17:37: more people congregating in parks.

00:17:37 --> 00:17:40: And so as our park use has increased,

00:17:40 --> 00:17:45: weather is getting nicer. People having social distancing

00:17:45 --> 00:17:48: fatigue.

00:17:45 --> 00:17:48: And people aren't wearing face coverings as much as we

00:17:48 --> 00:17:50: would like them to.

00:17:50 --> 00:17:53: I'm not sure if you all remember the picture to

00:17:53 --> 00:17:56: the right is a situation we had in Oakland last

00:17:56 --> 00:17:57: summer.

00:17:57 --> 00:18:00: We try. We had community that was trying to police

00:18:00 --> 00:18:04: other community members and we're actively trying to make

00:18:04 --> 00:18:06: that

00:18:04 --> 00:18:06: not happen in this covid season.

00:18:06 --> 00:18:09: We don't want people policing other people.

00:18:09 --> 00:18:12: We also are not trying to involve the police and

00:18:12 --> 00:18:16: so we're just trying to use Community messaging an and

00:18:16 --> 00:18:17: using park ambassadors,

00:18:17 --> 00:18:20: which we'll talk about in a minute to spread.

00:18:20 --> 00:18:25: Information I want to show this slide specifically to talk

00:18:25 --> 00:18:26: about equity.

00:18:26 --> 00:18:30: The highest number of reported cases in Oakland.

00:18:30 --> 00:18:37: Coincides with the lowest income neighborhoods with the

00:18:30 --> 00:18:37: majority residents

00:18:37 --> 00:18:38: of color.

00:18:38 --> 00:18:41: So how do we address that?

00:18:41 --> 00:18:45: We are trying to figure out the best ways to

00:18:45 --> 00:18:47: reach these communities both in parks,

00:18:47 --> 00:18:52: an in neighborhoods and local communities to pass out PPE

00:18:52 --> 00:18:56: to share the message where there are resources that we

00:18:56 --> 00:18:59: can share and then just to talk to people about

00:18:59 --> 00:19:03: the mirror safety of wearing face to face coverings,

00:19:03 --> 00:19:07: keeping social distancing, Anne Anne being just aware of this

00:19:07 --> 00:19:10: major kovit situation that we're having.

00:19:10 --> 00:19:14: I'm not sure if. Any other major cities are facing

00:19:14 --> 00:19:14: this,

00:19:14 --> 00:19:17: but this is the real problem.

00:19:17 --> 00:19:20: For Oakland. This is another layer of disparity on top

00:19:21 --> 00:19:24: of the people in Oakland that are hardest hit with

00:19:24 --> 00:19:25: disparities,

00:19:25 --> 00:19:29: low income and again major mostly residents of color.

00:19:29 --> 00:19:31: Again when we talk about equity,

00:19:31 --> 00:19:35: you know we've had to close basketball courts and soccer

00:19:35 --> 00:19:40: field due to the difficulty in maintaining social distances,

00:19:40 --> 00:19:43: but we were able to keep walking trails.

00:19:43 --> 00:19:46: We're planning a re phase opening for golf courts and

00:19:46 --> 00:19:49: other sports and So what we're trying to do is

00:19:49 --> 00:19:53: make sure that we have an equitable approach to what's

00:19:53 --> 00:19:57: assessable to Oakland citizens because of the nature of the

00:19:57 --> 00:20:00: virus and recommendations around social distancing.

00:20:00 --> 00:20:02: We did have to close,

00:20:02 --> 00:20:04: close contact sports fields, basketball,

00:20:04 --> 00:20:08: soccer, but were able to keep parks and trails open.

00:20:08 --> 00:20:11: Initially we left fields open so that small groups can

00:20:11 --> 00:20:12: play,

00:20:12 --> 00:20:14: but they actually, you know.

00:20:14 --> 00:20:17: We weren't able to contain the numbers of people that

00:20:17 --> 00:20:18: were actually playing,

00:20:18 --> 00:20:20: so we were forced to close them down.

00:20:20 --> 00:20:23: Ultimately, is really a tough decision for all of us

00:20:23 --> 00:20:24: in our normal lives.

00:20:24 --> 00:20:27: We continue to advocate for the benefit of parks,

00:20:27 --> 00:20:30: and so when everything is closed other than the grocery

00:20:30 --> 00:20:30: stores,

00:20:30 --> 00:20:32: parks become the only outlet,

00:20:32 --> 00:20:34: and so we want to make sure that all of

00:20:34 --> 00:20:35: the communities,  
00:20:35 --> 00:20:38: not just communities that have access to golf and walking  
00:20:38 --> 00:20:39: trails,  
00:20:39 --> 00:20:42: but all of our neighborhood communities have access to at  
00:20:42 --> 00:20:44: least be able to go out in their park and  
00:20:44 --> 00:20:45: get some.  
00:20:45 --> 00:20:48: Fresh here, even though we had to close many of  
00:20:48 --> 00:20:49: the amenities,  
00:20:49 --> 00:20:52: so innovation we've come up with a couple of great  
00:20:52 --> 00:20:55: ideas in ways that we have sort of reinvented a  
00:20:55 --> 00:20:58: way to keep the rec centers being able to provide  
00:20:58 --> 00:21:01: Community resources so we have set up a couple of  
00:21:01 --> 00:21:05: food distribution locations in our rec centers in conjunction  
with  
00:21:05 --> 00:21:09: Alameda County Food Bank and the Oakland Unified School  
District.  
00:21:09 --> 00:21:14: Also, we have partnered with other nonprofits and local  
organizations  
00:21:14 --> 00:21:17: who are collecting goods and services.  
00:21:17 --> 00:21:20: We are using our parks and rec vans and drivers  
00:21:20 --> 00:21:23: to go out into communities that have been hard hit.  
00:21:23 --> 00:21:27: Based on the map that we just showed to distribute  
00:21:27 --> 00:21:31: mask and to use video streaming and messages around  
social  
00:21:31 --> 00:21:33: distancing and prevention.  
00:21:33 --> 00:21:38: Very much focused on isolation and being strategic about  
which  
00:21:38 --> 00:21:41: centers are open for alternative programming,  
00:21:41 --> 00:21:44: and we're trying to make sure that we have a  
00:21:44 --> 00:21:48: good geographic mix in all parts of the city where  
00:21:48 --> 00:21:50: we're beginning to do reopenings,  
00:21:50 --> 00:21:53: as we've all had to reinvent ourselves,  
00:21:53 --> 00:21:57: we have come up with a wonderful variety of virtual  
00:21:57 --> 00:21:59: programs and plans for our summer.  
00:21:59 --> 00:22:01: We've got virtual soccer drills.  
00:22:01 --> 00:22:04: We've got virtual basketball drills.  
00:22:04 --> 00:22:07: We have a free on lighting code online coding class  
00:22:07 --> 00:22:09: that we were in our second week.  
00:22:09 --> 00:22:11: We've been that's been filled up.  
00:22:11 --> 00:22:14: Each one of our classes have been maxed out.  
00:22:14 --> 00:22:17: We have an online virtual PE so we can keep  
00:22:17 --> 00:22:20: our kids active and give up parents who are sheltering  
00:22:20 --> 00:22:22: at home with their kids.

00:22:22 --> 00:22:25: You know an hour break where the kids can be  
00:22:25 --> 00:22:26: tuned in to do some PE.  
00:22:26 --> 00:22:30: We also have an adult fitness program that's averaging about  
00:22:30 --> 00:22:33: a hundred 150 people tonight that workout online with us.  
00:22:33 --> 00:22:35: We did some social distancing.  
00:22:35 --> 00:22:38: Egg hunts and just trying to keep ourselves attached,  
00:22:38 --> 00:22:40: anan and close to our patrons.  
00:22:40 --> 00:22:43: One of the things that we're doing is that our  
00:22:43 --> 00:22:47: center directors are actually calling the kids that were  
registered  
00:22:47 --> 00:22:50: in their programs and the parents are emailing like,  
00:22:50 --> 00:22:53: hey, you know, I can't thank you enough for that.  
00:22:53 --> 00:22:56: Call, you know, the kids actually really miss their friends.  
00:22:56 --> 00:22:59: They really appreciate hearing from you.  
00:22:59 --> 00:23:02: And so as we continue to work through this and  
00:23:02 --> 00:23:04: begin to think about reopenings,  
00:23:04 --> 00:23:07: we're trying to figure out how we can get some  
00:23:07 --> 00:23:10: type of summer program going for our kids.  
00:23:10 --> 00:23:14: Oakland kids, just like kids around the nation have been  
00:23:14 --> 00:23:17: in home sheltering in place since the beginning of March.  
00:23:17 --> 00:23:20: I saw a TV Reporter on CNN yesterday about the  
00:23:21 --> 00:23:21: summer slide,  
00:23:21 --> 00:23:24: and, you know, as as recreators,  
00:23:24 --> 00:23:26: we try to help kids over this summer to do  
00:23:26 --> 00:23:29: some reading and to do some math.  
00:23:29 --> 00:23:31: So there's not. Real big gaps in their summer slide,  
00:23:31 --> 00:23:34: but kids have been out of school now and if  
00:23:34 --> 00:23:35: they're not in summer,  
00:23:35 --> 00:23:37: programs will be 6 to 8 months and so we're  
00:23:37 --> 00:23:40: trying to be creative about creating programs.  
00:23:40 --> 00:23:42: That's going to help kids to continue.  
00:23:42 --> 00:23:44: Do reading and to continue to do math so that  
00:23:44 --> 00:23:45: they don't slide.  
00:23:45 --> 00:23:48: So so far back on their education and things that  
00:23:48 --> 00:23:50: they've learned during the school year.  
00:23:50 --> 00:23:52: So thank you very much for hearing from Oakland.  
00:23:52 --> 00:23:55: I'll be happy to answer any questions at the appropriate  
00:23:55 --> 00:23:56: time.  
00:23:56 --> 00:23:58: Thank you. Thanks necklace and I'll pass it over now  
00:23:59 --> 00:24:00: to Catherine at level.  
00:24:00 --> 00:24:02: The Commissioner at the Philadelphia Parks.  
00:24:02 --> 00:24:06: And recreation. Hey thanks everybody.

00:24:06 --> 00:24:09: It's great to talk to everybody.  
00:24:09 --> 00:24:11: I'm really grateful to I.  
00:24:11 --> 00:24:15: You will lie in RPA for putting this webinar together.  
00:24:15 --> 00:24:18: Also, just want to give a huge shout out to  
00:24:18 --> 00:24:21: an RPA who for Urban Park directors like myself have  
00:24:21 --> 00:24:25: just been tremendously valuable over these last few weeks?  
00:24:25 --> 00:24:28: Organizing calls for for City Park directors from all over  
00:24:28 --> 00:24:31: the country to talk to each other on a weekly  
00:24:31 --> 00:24:34: basis to get you know real feedback and data in  
00:24:34 --> 00:24:37: real time to help inform the decisions that we need  
00:24:37 --> 00:24:38: to make.  
00:24:38 --> 00:24:41: And I just can't express how valuable that pit that  
00:24:41 --> 00:24:44: has been and how helpful that's been.  
00:24:44 --> 00:24:45: So thank you to an RPA for.  
00:24:45 --> 00:24:47: For doing such a great job.  
00:24:47 --> 00:24:48: So this is our city,  
00:24:48 --> 00:24:51: we have a really large parks and rec system.  
00:24:51 --> 00:24:53: Just to give you a sense of all those dots  
00:24:53 --> 00:24:56: or parks and rec centers all over the city.  
00:24:56 --> 00:24:58: We have 156 staffed rec centers,  
00:24:58 --> 00:25:00: a ton of pools, ton of parks,  
00:25:00 --> 00:25:02: tons of other stuff. As you can see here,  
00:25:02 --> 00:25:03: we do have about 90%  
00:25:03 --> 00:25:07: of our residents living within a 10 minute walk apart.  
00:25:07 --> 00:25:10: This is just to give you some context of Philly  
00:25:10 --> 00:25:10: Parks and Rec.  
00:25:10 --> 00:25:12: We have 10,000 acres of Parkland,  
00:25:12 --> 00:25:14: hundreds of miles of trails.  
00:25:14 --> 00:25:17: You know, a huge urban agriculture program.  
00:25:17 --> 00:25:20: And lots of historic sites throughout our system as well.  
00:25:20 --> 00:25:23: We're really, we know we have the whole public space  
00:25:23 --> 00:25:27: component of a sort of natural lands and infrastructure,  
00:25:27 --> 00:25:29: and then we have a whole programmatic focus of what  
00:25:30 --> 00:25:31: we do on the recreation side.  
00:25:31 --> 00:25:34: We have, you know, thousands of programs that we lead  
00:25:34 --> 00:25:36: for young people throughout the city.  
00:25:36 --> 00:25:38: Our summer camp is really robust,  
00:25:38 --> 00:25:42: with 130 different summer camps throughout the year or  
00:25:42 --> 00:25:43: throughout  
00:25:42 --> 00:25:43: the city.  
00:25:43 --> 00:25:45: In the summer we hire A ton of young people  
00:25:45 --> 00:25:47: to work for us in the summer and.

00:25:47 --> 00:25:51: Where the second largest meal provider this is pre covid,  
00:25:51 --> 00:25:54: where the second largest meal provider in the city providing  
00:25:54 --> 00:25:57: over 2 million meals annually to kids.  
00:25:57 --> 00:25:59: And that's 20,000 meals a day in the summer.  
00:25:59 --> 00:26:02: This gives you a sense of sort of what happened  
00:26:02 --> 00:26:05: in Philly in terms of the covid response,  
00:26:05 --> 00:26:08: so you know we quickly we were just responding like  
00:26:08 --> 00:26:10: everybody else to you know,  
00:26:10 --> 00:26:13: public health officials as well as our governor.  
00:26:13 --> 00:26:14: And once you know the city,  
00:26:14 --> 00:26:18: shut down commercial activity are nonessential government  
operations.  
00:26:18 --> 00:26:21: We're also halted, but we did have most of our  
00:26:21 --> 00:26:24: stuff still working as essential employees.  
00:26:24 --> 00:26:27: You know to to manage basic park operations,  
00:26:27 --> 00:26:30: but all of our rec centers and and other community  
00:26:30 --> 00:26:33: centers were closed and as well as our playgrounds are  
00:26:34 --> 00:26:34: our courts,  
00:26:34 --> 00:26:36: you know, as Nicholas mentioned,  
00:26:36 --> 00:26:40: you know we've had a huge issue around our basketball  
00:26:40 --> 00:26:43: courts and we've removed probably 300 rims at this point  
00:26:43 --> 00:26:47: throughout the city to detur people from from playing  
basketball.  
00:26:47 --> 00:26:49: And we've had just, uh,  
00:26:49 --> 00:26:52: huge issue with vandalism around playgrounds too.  
00:26:52 --> 00:26:55: After we close them with people cutting through fences to  
00:26:55 --> 00:26:56: get into the playground.  
00:26:56 --> 00:26:59: So that's something that we continue to deal with.  
00:26:59 --> 00:27:02: You know, once the stay at home order was issued,  
00:27:02 --> 00:27:06: we quickly started some virtual programming with called  
Parks and  
00:27:06 --> 00:27:07: Rec at home.  
00:27:07 --> 00:27:09: And you can go to the next slide and I'll  
00:27:09 --> 00:27:12: walk through some of these things that happened.  
00:27:12 --> 00:27:15: So the first thing we did when our rec centers  
00:27:15 --> 00:27:18: closed was to reassign our REC Center employees,  
00:27:18 --> 00:27:20: which is about 300 people.  
00:27:20 --> 00:27:22: To go work on the cities food access response so  
00:27:22 --> 00:27:25: our recreation staff were assigned to the to a new  
00:27:25 --> 00:27:26: warehouse,  
00:27:26 --> 00:27:28: a food warehouse that was set up by the city  
00:27:28 --> 00:27:31: to help pack food to distribute out to food pantry  
00:27:31 --> 00:27:33: sites that were set up around the city.

00:27:33 --> 00:27:36: We also turned rec centers into food Pantry site so  
00:27:36 --> 00:27:38: we have them open on Wednesdays.  
00:27:38 --> 00:27:41: I'm sorry Mondays and Thursdays from folks to come and  
00:27:41 --> 00:27:43: pick up the boxes that were packed earlier in the  
00:27:44 --> 00:27:46: week of perishables and non perishables.  
00:27:46 --> 00:27:48: And then we still have recreation centers.  
00:27:48 --> 00:27:52: An older adult centers. That are open as meal distribution  
00:27:52 --> 00:27:54: sites in addition to the boxes of food.  
00:27:54 --> 00:27:57: And then we're also sending staff out to schools that  
00:27:57 --> 00:28:00: are serving as meal distribution sites as well,  
00:28:00 --> 00:28:02: so we have quickly, you know,  
00:28:02 --> 00:28:06: really responded to the food access issues that are really  
00:28:06 --> 00:28:07: prevalent in our city.  
00:28:07 --> 00:28:10: We have. We are one of the poorest big cities  
00:28:10 --> 00:28:11: in the country,  
00:28:11 --> 00:28:14: with about 25% of our residents living below the poverty  
00:28:14 --> 00:28:15: line.  
00:28:15 --> 00:28:16: You know, like everybody else,  
00:28:16 --> 00:28:18: we ran out of mass quickly.  
00:28:18 --> 00:28:21: And, you know we're still having so many of our  
00:28:21 --> 00:28:22: frontline staff.  
00:28:22 --> 00:28:25: Come to work, so we organized a citywide mass campaign  
00:28:25 --> 00:28:27: with our nonprofit partners,  
00:28:27 --> 00:28:30: the Fairmount Park Conservancy. The Filter Parks Alliance,  
00:28:30 --> 00:28:34: and the Horticultural Society, and we ended up getting about  
00:28:34 --> 00:28:37: 1500 masks made handmade by park advocates and friends,  
00:28:37 --> 00:28:39: friends, groups, and dropped off.  
00:28:39 --> 00:28:42: And we were able to distribute them out,  
00:28:42 --> 00:28:44: which was really, you know,  
00:28:44 --> 00:28:47: totally inspiring and all the notes that came with them.  
00:28:47 --> 00:28:49: One great thing that we did that got made a  
00:28:50 --> 00:28:52: lot of people really happy was at the around the  
00:28:52 --> 00:28:54: third week of March.  
00:28:54 --> 00:28:55: We notice this, you know,  
00:28:55 --> 00:28:58: massive because the weather is getting nicer.  
00:28:58 --> 00:29:00: Massive uptick in trail usage,  
00:29:00 --> 00:29:04: specifically our waterfront trails. This Google River Trail,  
00:29:04 --> 00:29:07: and so we worked with the streets Department in the  
00:29:07 --> 00:29:10: police to close one of the drives along our River  
00:29:10 --> 00:29:13: R Schuco River Ticular traffic so that it could be  
00:29:13 --> 00:29:17: provide more space to focus on bicycles and pedestrians.  
00:29:17 --> 00:29:20: And we're still looking to do that with some other



00:29:20 --> 00:29:20: roads.

00:29:20 --> 00:29:23: We haven't pulled the trigger on other roads,

00:29:23 --> 00:29:25: but it's been a huge benefit to too.

00:29:25 --> 00:29:29: Two trail users like Nicholas said and like every other

00:29:29 --> 00:29:29: city.

00:29:29 --> 00:29:31: You know we had this huge.

00:29:31 --> 00:29:34: In pain you know just getting signs made as quickly

00:29:34 --> 00:29:35: as possible.

00:29:35 --> 00:29:38: Lawn signs a frames everywhere just to remind people to

00:29:38 --> 00:29:39: social distance,

00:29:39 --> 00:29:42: to let people know that that our sites are closed.

00:29:42 --> 00:29:44: These are just some examples of the evolution of our

00:29:44 --> 00:29:45: signs.

00:29:45 --> 00:29:47: You know, as these are just the evolution of our

00:29:48 --> 00:29:50: signs and hopefully this will be available to folks.

00:29:50 --> 00:29:53: If you want to steal some of the content.

00:29:53 --> 00:29:55: But this is this is the most recent evolution of

00:29:55 --> 00:29:59: our social media graphics and we partnered with visit Philly

00:29:59 --> 00:30:02: which is our local tourism marketing Corporation.

00:30:02 --> 00:30:04: You know, using some of their,

00:30:04 --> 00:30:06: you know clever graphics team to help us come up

00:30:06 --> 00:30:09: with just just to keep the messages fresh and to

00:30:09 --> 00:30:12: give them some legs and and you know get them

00:30:12 --> 00:30:14: shared a little bit more.

00:30:14 --> 00:30:16: You know these are some some Philly centric,

00:30:16 --> 00:30:19: you know types of graphics that we've been using to

00:30:19 --> 00:30:23: get people to understand that the importance and just to

00:30:23 --> 00:30:24: the message stays fresh.

00:30:24 --> 00:30:27: 'cause I think it's becoming a lot of white noise

00:30:27 --> 00:30:31: getting people to remember that it's really important to keep

00:30:31 --> 00:30:32: your distance but also.

00:30:32 --> 00:30:35: You know, just you don't need to spend 3 hours

00:30:35 --> 00:30:37: in the park that we need to share the space

00:30:37 --> 00:30:40: you know and limiting the time that you spend in

00:30:40 --> 00:30:42: public space to make sure that there's time for everybody

00:30:43 --> 00:30:45: to be able to spend safely in our public spaces

00:30:45 --> 00:30:48: as well as staying in your own neighborhood if possible.

00:30:48 --> 00:30:50: You know so. So this is just,

00:30:50 --> 00:30:52: you know, like, like other groups are doing,

00:30:52 --> 00:30:54: we're doing parks and rec at home,

00:30:54 --> 00:30:55: which is some virtual programs to,

00:30:55 --> 00:30:58: again, just, you know, hopefully cater to the physical,

00:30:58 --> 00:31:00: mental well being of residents,  
00:31:00 --> 00:31:03: but also to stay connected to our constituents.  
00:31:03 --> 00:31:06: You know, as we mentioned in the beginning,  
00:31:06 --> 00:31:07: as Rachel mentioned, you know,  
00:31:07 --> 00:31:10: I think I want to be really honest.  
00:31:10 --> 00:31:13: Then, in the very first few weeks of this crisis,  
00:31:13 --> 00:31:15: I felt really optimistic. I was,  
00:31:15 --> 00:31:18: I was, you know, really felt sort of indicated to  
00:31:18 --> 00:31:21: see the the sort of outpouring of support for parks  
00:31:21 --> 00:31:22: and public space.  
00:31:22 --> 00:31:25: It was it was amazing to hear people talk about  
00:31:25 --> 00:31:28: how you know they had taken public space for granted  
00:31:28 --> 00:31:31: and how important it's become at a time when we  
00:31:31 --> 00:31:33: are stuck at home and and how.  
00:31:33 --> 00:31:36: How much people appreciated and how essential it is that  
00:31:36 --> 00:31:39: word essential I think has been so important,  
00:31:39 --> 00:31:41: so I felt incredibly awesome,  
00:31:41 --> 00:31:43: optimistic and then you know to be honest,  
00:31:43 --> 00:31:46: over the last six weeks things stuff got real,  
00:31:46 --> 00:31:49: you know. And and now here we are having submitted  
00:31:49 --> 00:31:52: and our mayor presented a new budget on Friday and  
00:31:52 --> 00:31:56: we're one of the most under resourced parks and rec  
00:31:56 --> 00:31:59: systems in the country. And yet we're taking a 20%  
00:31:59 --> 00:32:02: budget cut next year, which is \$13,000,000 our capital  
00:32:02 --> 00:32:05: budget  
00:32:02 --> 00:32:05: for everything I mentioned in the beginning.  
00:32:05 --> 00:32:07: Of my side presentation, you know,  
00:32:07 --> 00:32:11: 500 buildings and 230 miles of trails and 10,000 acres  
00:32:11 --> 00:32:11: of land.  
00:32:11 --> 00:32:16: Our capital budget next year will be 1.5 million dollars.  
00:32:16 --> 00:32:18: It's just it's laughable, you know.  
00:32:18 --> 00:32:21: And this is the reality that we're facing and I  
00:32:21 --> 00:32:22: don't,  
00:32:22 --> 00:32:25: I'm not I'm not blaming you know our city I'm  
00:32:25 --> 00:32:27: the one who had to make those cuts.  
00:32:27 --> 00:32:30: It's a terrible situation to be in to face this  
00:32:30 --> 00:32:33: budget gap of 649 million American dollars.  
00:32:33 --> 00:32:36: But it does show you that you know really all  
00:32:36 --> 00:32:39: of the goodwill around parks and public spaces were still  
00:32:40 --> 00:32:43: not really seen as an essential service when it when  
00:32:43 --> 00:32:46: it comes right down to what's going to be funded.  
00:32:46 --> 00:32:47: In a time of crisis,

00:32:47 --> 00:32:49: you know we are, you know,  
00:32:49 --> 00:32:51: we're being hit like everybody else,  
00:32:51 --> 00:32:54: and perhaps more so. So what are our programmatic shifts?  
00:32:54 --> 00:32:57: We announced that we will not be having a pool  
00:32:57 --> 00:32:58: season this summer.  
00:32:58 --> 00:33:01: That is pretty devastating for us in Philadelphia.  
00:33:01 --> 00:33:04: We still have 70 outdoor pools so their beloved in  
00:33:04 --> 00:33:07: our city and and we said that we're making the  
00:33:07 --> 00:33:09: pool decision based on three things.  
00:33:09 --> 00:33:12: First and foremost, that we don't know what the public  
00:33:12 --> 00:33:14: health protocols will be.  
00:33:14 --> 00:33:16: So, you know, we're not anticipating will be.  
00:33:16 --> 00:33:19: Safe to have crowds at pools this summer and we  
00:33:19 --> 00:33:21: have crowds at our pools.  
00:33:21 --> 00:33:23: Number 2 the logistics of losing 6 to 8 weeks  
00:33:23 --> 00:33:27: when we should be hiring and recruiting and training  
lifeguards  
00:33:27 --> 00:33:29: as well as prepping our pools.  
00:33:29 --> 00:33:32: We've lost a lot of that time and then third  
00:33:32 --> 00:33:33: certainly the budget,  
00:33:33 --> 00:33:37: the budget ramifications. We are planning to have summer  
camps  
00:33:37 --> 00:33:39: if we can get to a place where we feel  
00:33:39 --> 00:33:40: they can be done safely,  
00:33:40 --> 00:33:44: but in the meantime with or without summer camps were  
00:33:44 --> 00:33:47: really focused on on what we're calling hyper local  
engagement.  
00:33:47 --> 00:33:50: Kids where they are and we have this amazing place  
00:33:51 --> 00:33:54: St program where we deliver meals to 600 play streets.  
00:33:54 --> 00:33:57: We allow people to apply includes their streets between  
10:00  
00:33:57 --> 00:34:01: and 2:00 every day during the summer and we deliver  
00:34:01 --> 00:34:03: meals to the kids on that block and so we're  
00:34:03 --> 00:34:06: now focusing on how we can enhance those play streets  
00:34:06 --> 00:34:11: and really ensure really wonderful positive structured play  
experience with  
00:34:11 --> 00:34:13: play captains and play kits and amazing,  
00:34:13 --> 00:34:17: you know, mobile play elements that should have  
transformed the  
00:34:17 --> 00:34:18: street landscape.  
00:34:18 --> 00:34:21: And it's again around this idea that if the kids  
00:34:21 --> 00:34:24: can't get to rec centers because they're closed or it's  
00:34:24 --> 00:34:25: not safe,

00:34:25 --> 00:34:27: then how do we make sure we get to the  
00:34:27 --> 00:34:28: kids and that's it?  
00:34:28 --> 00:34:30: So I'm happy to take questions alright?  
00:34:30 --> 00:34:33: Janet and Jennifer.  
00:34:33 --> 00:34:36: Sure, I'm I'm gonna I'm gonna kick it off and  
00:34:36 --> 00:34:38: then Jim's gonna just gonna take it home.  
00:34:38 --> 00:34:42: So hi everybody, thanks again for inviting us to this  
00:34:42 --> 00:34:45: web and R it's fantastic thanks to the Urban Land  
00:34:45 --> 00:34:46: Institute,  
00:34:46 --> 00:34:48: National Recs and Parks Association.  
00:34:48 --> 00:34:52: You guys are fantastic and we really love working with  
00:34:52 --> 00:34:52: you.  
00:34:52 --> 00:34:55: What Jenn and I are going to do is just  
00:34:55 --> 00:34:59: present to you some of the information that that's up  
00:34:59 --> 00:35:02: on our website now and hopefully you've seen it.  
00:35:02 --> 00:35:05: But really, these are considerations for parks.  
00:35:05 --> 00:35:08: And open spaces. I think everybody knows,  
00:35:08 --> 00:35:12: but this is just a reminder of how the COVID-19  
00:35:12 --> 00:35:13: virus spreads.  
00:35:13 --> 00:35:16: It is a virus. It's really thought to spread from  
00:35:16 --> 00:35:18: a person to a person,  
00:35:18 --> 00:35:22: and so that's why we recommend that people stay apart.  
00:35:22 --> 00:35:24: They stay apart for at least six feet.  
00:35:24 --> 00:35:28: Sometimes we we refer to that as social distancing.  
00:35:28 --> 00:35:31: I saw in the chat box that folks are wondering  
00:35:32 --> 00:35:35: whether we should change that to physical distancing.  
00:35:35 --> 00:35:39: It's good question, but we say social distance at least  
00:35:39 --> 00:35:40: six feet apart.  
00:35:40 --> 00:35:44: That really helps prevent the spread because we know that  
00:35:44 --> 00:35:48: the virus is spread through these respiratory droplets.  
00:35:48 --> 00:35:50: When people sneeze or they cough,  
00:35:50 --> 00:35:54: so separate out at least 6 feet from people you  
00:35:54 --> 00:35:55: don't live with,  
00:35:55 --> 00:35:58: I think it probably everyone on the phone today really  
00:35:58 --> 00:36:02: recognizes the value of being able to go to a  
00:36:02 --> 00:36:03: park and enjoy a park.  
00:36:03 --> 00:36:06: We all know that being active has so many health  
00:36:06 --> 00:36:07: benefits.  
00:36:07 --> 00:36:11: Probably at least 30 that have been studied to date.  
00:36:11 --> 00:36:15: There are these long term benefits to your health and  
00:36:15 --> 00:36:16: mortality.  
00:36:16 --> 00:36:19: Things like cardiovascular disease, diabetes,

00:36:19 --> 00:36:23: arthritis, obesity. We could go on and on and name.  
00:36:23 --> 00:36:27: Name several of them. But I also think you know,  
00:36:27 --> 00:36:31: especially now you know during the pandemic.  
00:36:31 --> 00:36:35: These immediate benefits that that people have and that they  
00:36:35 --> 00:36:38: can accrue from being physically active.  
00:36:38 --> 00:36:43: You know, physical activity immediately helps you feel better.  
00:36:43 --> 00:36:45: It helps you sleep better.  
00:36:45 --> 00:36:47: It helps you think better,  
00:36:47 --> 00:36:50: and so those types of benefits I think,  
00:36:50 --> 00:36:54: especially now, are just really important to know and also  
00:36:54 --> 00:36:54: to to,  
00:36:54 --> 00:36:58: you know, share with with people you know.  
00:36:58 --> 00:37:03: It helps. Depression anxiety helps reduce your blood  
pressure.  
00:37:03 --> 00:37:06: And really helps with cognitive function.  
00:37:06 --> 00:37:10: So I think that from from a health benefit there's  
00:37:10 --> 00:37:15: there's a variety of different benefits to physical activity,  
00:37:15 --> 00:37:19: and parks are a great way to really get those  
00:37:19 --> 00:37:20: benefits.  
00:37:20 --> 00:37:24: So we thought that CDC is really important too.  
00:37:24 --> 00:37:28: Develop guidance for around parks and we split that  
guidance  
00:37:28 --> 00:37:31: into that that those pieces of guidance were most relevant  
00:37:31 --> 00:37:35: to administrators of parks and recreational facilities,  
00:37:35 --> 00:37:38: and then also to the folks who visit parks and  
00:37:38 --> 00:37:39: recreational facilities.  
00:37:39 --> 00:37:42: So that's how we break it up in our guidance  
00:37:42 --> 00:37:45: because sometimes it's a little bit different,  
00:37:45 --> 00:37:48: or it can be phrased a little bit differently when  
00:37:48 --> 00:37:52: we develop these types of guidance documents for a variety  
00:37:52 --> 00:37:54: of different audiences,  
00:37:54 --> 00:37:55: we try to put it in.  
00:37:55 --> 00:37:58: Really kind of user friendly terms and we work very  
00:37:58 --> 00:38:02: closely with our communications experts who are excellent  
and who  
00:38:02 --> 00:38:05: are working on the response with us alongside us and  
00:38:05 --> 00:38:08: so one of the ways that we did this for  
00:38:08 --> 00:38:11: parks and Rec was we really thought about what you  
00:38:11 --> 00:38:12: can do to stay healthy.  
00:38:12 --> 00:38:15: And then of course what you we don't want you  
00:38:15 --> 00:38:16: to do.  
00:38:16 --> 00:38:19: So here's a slide that just shows things that you  
00:38:19 --> 00:38:21: can do if you're going to visit a park,

00:38:21 --> 00:38:24: try to visit a park that's close to your home,  
00:38:24 --> 00:38:28: right? Don't? Don't travel long distances when you travel long  
00:38:28 --> 00:38:29: distances,  
00:38:29 --> 00:38:32: you tend to stop places and you maybe come in  
00:38:32 --> 00:38:35: contact with people who may may potentially be infected.  
00:38:35 --> 00:38:38: So we want to try to keep people as healthy  
00:38:38 --> 00:38:40: as we can and safe as we can.  
00:38:40 --> 00:38:42: So one way to do that is try to visit  
00:38:42 --> 00:38:45: parks that are that are nearby.  
00:38:45 --> 00:38:46: You know, plan for your visit.  
00:38:46 --> 00:38:49: Prepare for your visit. You know if you,  
00:38:49 --> 00:38:52: if you think that you know they're not going to  
00:38:52 --> 00:38:52: be clean.  
00:38:52 --> 00:38:55: Restrooms at the park, take some hand sanitizer with you.  
00:38:55 --> 00:38:59: But really and obviously, take water and those kinds of  
00:38:59 --> 00:38:59: things as well.  
00:38:59 --> 00:39:02: But really think about before you go.  
00:39:02 --> 00:39:05: Of course, I think everybody knows and,  
00:39:05 --> 00:39:07: but it's never. We can never say it enough,  
00:39:07 --> 00:39:11: you know, stay at least six feet away from others.  
00:39:11 --> 00:39:12: That's the key here really.  
00:39:12 --> 00:39:16: Trying social distance or physical distance away from people  
at  
00:39:16 --> 00:39:17: least six feet.  
00:39:17 --> 00:39:19: That's probably the best strategy.  
00:39:19 --> 00:39:22: And then you know many parks have swimming pools or  
00:39:23 --> 00:39:23: swimming areas.  
00:39:23 --> 00:39:27: Make sure that you stay safe around those around those  
00:39:27 --> 00:39:28: areas you know,  
00:39:28 --> 00:39:31: particularly in the water, but also around the water.  
00:39:31 --> 00:39:33: Again, social distancing is key here.  
00:39:33 --> 00:39:35: Try and keep space between.  
00:39:35 --> 00:39:38: Yourself and others, so I'm going to sound like a  
00:39:38 --> 00:39:39: broken record here,  
00:39:39 --> 00:39:43: but this is a slide again about about social distancing.  
00:39:43 --> 00:39:45: We know it's hard. We know it's hard to keep  
00:39:45 --> 00:39:47: away from from people you know.  
00:39:47 --> 00:39:50: It's it's the nature of our culture to be together,  
00:39:50 --> 00:39:54: but here's a time when it's really important for your  
00:39:54 --> 00:39:57: health and for everyone's health to try to try to  
00:39:57 --> 00:40:00: keep that social distance of at least six feet.  
00:40:00 --> 00:40:03: We know from science that this really helps slow the

00:40:03 --> 00:40:04: spread of the disease,  
00:40:04 --> 00:40:08: and this recommendation is really based on scientific evidence so.

00:40:08 --> 00:40:11: When we develop evidence at this TDC,  
00:40:11 --> 00:40:13: we really try and go to the science 1st and  
00:40:13 --> 00:40:15: this is what we know works.  
00:40:15 --> 00:40:17: So This is why we recommend it.  
00:40:17 --> 00:40:20: The other thing that we've recently suggested are our masks  
00:40:20 --> 00:40:22: or what we call cloth face coverings.  
00:40:22 --> 00:40:25: And if you go to the website you can see  
00:40:25 --> 00:40:28: the surgeon general actually walks you through how to make  
00:40:28 --> 00:40:31: your own cloth face covering and the reason that we  
00:40:31 --> 00:40:34: do this is because we know there are a lot  
00:40:34 --> 00:40:37: of folks out there who don't have symptoms who are  
00:40:37 --> 00:40:40: asymptomatic and they they can spread the disease.  
00:40:40 --> 00:40:43: And so if we try and get everyone who's out  
00:40:43 --> 00:40:46: in public and who can possibly come in contact with  
00:40:46 --> 00:40:48: one another to wear the cloth face covering,  
00:40:48 --> 00:40:52: then we've reduced the possible transmission of the disease.  
00:40:52 --> 00:40:54: And that's what we're all about.  
00:40:54 --> 00:40:57: So cloth face coverings are recommended if you're out in  
00:40:57 --> 00:40:58: public.  
00:40:58 --> 00:41:01: You know if you're going to a place where there's  
00:41:01 --> 00:41:02: you know there's no one there,  
00:41:02 --> 00:41:05: then you know it's probably OK not to wear one.  
00:41:05 --> 00:41:08: But but really, if you're out in public,  
00:41:08 --> 00:41:10: try to wear a cloth face covering.  
00:41:10 --> 00:41:14: It's important that they fit over your nose in your  
00:41:14 --> 00:41:14: mouth.  
00:41:14 --> 00:41:16: They fit snugly, you know.  
00:41:16 --> 00:41:19: There's there's a way to make them so that they  
00:41:19 --> 00:41:23: launched over your ears with comfortable fabric and multiple  
layers.

00:41:23 --> 00:41:26: We don't recommend them for.  
00:41:26 --> 00:41:29: Children younger than two years of age are for babies  
00:41:29 --> 00:41:32: or for people who may have trouble breathing.  
00:41:32 --> 00:41:36: Or if you're operating machinery where the where the face  
00:41:36 --> 00:41:39: covering could get in the way of you seeing.  
00:41:39 --> 00:41:41: So we want to keep people safe.  
00:41:41 --> 00:41:45: We don't want the face covering to interfere with their  
00:41:45 --> 00:41:47: vision or their ability to function,  
00:41:47 --> 00:41:50: but we do want to keep people safe from becoming

00:41:50 --> 00:41:51: infected,  
00:41:51 --> 00:41:53: so that's a little bit about cloth,  
00:41:53 --> 00:41:56: face coverings. And here's the don't part of our.  
00:41:56 --> 00:42:00: Have user friendly guidance for.  
00:42:00 --> 00:42:03: For parks and recreational facilities,  
00:42:03 --> 00:42:05: of course. Just like anywhere,  
00:42:05 --> 00:42:08: whether it's a business or restaurant or any other setting  
00:42:08 --> 00:42:09: school,  
00:42:09 --> 00:42:12: for example, don't go there if you're sick or you  
00:42:12 --> 00:42:14: think you might be sick.  
00:42:14 --> 00:42:17: We don't want people to go to visit parks if  
00:42:18 --> 00:42:19: you're sick.  
00:42:19 --> 00:42:22: Parks, specifically, you know if you think that that park  
00:42:22 --> 00:42:22: will be crowded,  
00:42:22 --> 00:42:25: please don't go. We want people to social distance.  
00:42:25 --> 00:42:27: We want them to stay away from one another.  
00:42:27 --> 00:42:31: That's the best strategy. We also know if there are  
00:42:31 --> 00:42:35: some places in parks like a playground where there is  
00:42:35 --> 00:42:39: a usually close convening of people and even possible ways  
00:42:39 --> 00:42:43: that the virus can be transmitted through equipment or  
surface  
00:42:43 --> 00:42:47: is and we know that playgrounds are not typically cleaned  
00:42:47 --> 00:42:48: very often,  
00:42:48 --> 00:42:51: so we've recommended to not use playgrounds and I notice  
00:42:52 --> 00:42:55: that's kind of hard and some some places have closed  
00:42:55 --> 00:42:55: them,  
00:42:55 --> 00:42:59: but I know, I know that's hard for parents and  
00:42:59 --> 00:42:59: kids,  
00:42:59 --> 00:43:02: but we really just trying to keep up with.  
00:43:02 --> 00:43:06: People safe, so we recognize recommend not to use  
playgrounds  
00:43:07 --> 00:43:11: and really for the same reason you know participating in  
00:43:11 --> 00:43:12: or organized.  
00:43:12 --> 00:43:15: These are sports where people convene where they get  
close  
00:43:15 --> 00:43:15: together,  
00:43:15 --> 00:43:19: where there may be competitions for sports and activities.  
00:43:19 --> 00:43:21: Please don't, please don't do that either.  
00:43:21 --> 00:43:22: So no, that's hard. No,  
00:43:22 --> 00:43:27: it's no. It's tough, but we're trying to keep people  
00:43:27 --> 00:43:27: safe.  
00:43:27 --> 00:43:30: And here's our. This is just a slide that shows  
00:43:30 --> 00:43:32: our guidance upon the website.



00:43:32 --> 00:43:36: I think you know, for if you are park administrator  
00:43:36 --> 00:43:36: or you,  
00:43:36 --> 00:43:39: you know you help organize park events.  
00:43:39 --> 00:43:42: We have specific guidance for you up on our website,  
00:43:42 --> 00:43:44: but we want you know it's a little.  
00:43:44 --> 00:43:46: It's a little bit different.  
00:43:46 --> 00:43:50: It's not different. It's just a little bit stated a  
00:43:50 --> 00:43:51: little bit different way.  
00:43:51 --> 00:43:54: But if you're an administrator in this area,  
00:43:54 --> 00:43:58: you know post information about like how to have healthy  
00:43:58 --> 00:43:58: hygiene.  
00:43:58 --> 00:44:01: It's just like Nicholas showed at the beginning,  
00:44:01 --> 00:44:04: right? With their signage, you know,  
00:44:04 --> 00:44:06: have signage about washing hands,  
00:44:06 --> 00:44:09: you know, staying physically distance from one another.  
00:44:09 --> 00:44:12: Also, try to maintain restrooms that you know.  
00:44:12 --> 00:44:14: Keep them clean that remain open.  
00:44:14 --> 00:44:17: That's really important for administrators.  
00:44:17 --> 00:44:20: Again, social distance and we've talked a little bit about  
00:44:20 --> 00:44:24: organized activities and sports and then pools which Jenn  
00:44:24 --> 00:44:26: Jenn  
00:44:24 --> 00:44:26: knows a lot more about than than I do.  
00:44:26 --> 00:44:29: She knows all about how to keep pools clean.  
00:44:29 --> 00:44:31: And safe.  
00:44:31 --> 00:44:34: And then I just wanted to to close and I  
00:44:34 --> 00:44:37: know Rachel mentioned it at the beginning,  
00:44:37 --> 00:44:39: but I just, you know,  
00:44:39 --> 00:44:42: I had the real privilege to everyday work with Chris  
00:44:42 --> 00:44:43: Kuchinski.  
00:44:43 --> 00:44:47: He was my friend, he was my colleague and he  
00:44:47 --> 00:44:50: really helped organize this web and R.  
00:44:50 --> 00:44:54: And I just wanted to say that you know how  
00:44:54 --> 00:44:55: much we miss him,  
00:44:55 --> 00:44:58: but also how much his life meant to us an  
00:44:58 --> 00:45:00: and how he really contributed.  
00:45:00 --> 00:45:02: He was a lovely person,  
00:45:02 --> 00:45:06: a giver. There's not there wasn't enough that Chris could  
00:45:06 --> 00:45:09: give to you and I just wanted to say that  
00:45:09 --> 00:45:14: acknowledge him and just hopefully everyone can remember  
00:45:14 --> 00:45:16: a great  
00:45:14 --> 00:45:16: have a great memory about Chris.  
00:45:16 --> 00:45:20: So I'll close there and just say thank you very

00:45:20 --> 00:45:20: much.

00:45:20 --> 00:45:23: Thank you so much and thanks Janet for such a

00:45:23 --> 00:45:24: good overview.

00:45:24 --> 00:45:27: I just have a couple of quick slides related to

00:45:28 --> 00:45:29: cleaning and disinfecting,

00:45:29 --> 00:45:33: so cleaning and disinfecting are really important things that

00:45:34 --> 00:45:37: you can do to reduce your risk of exposure to COVID-19.

00:45:37 --> 00:45:40: So I'm just going to go over our three main

00:45:40 --> 00:45:44: cleaning and disinfecting principles that we have highlighted

00:45:44 --> 00:45:44: on the

00:45:44 --> 00:45:44: web.

00:45:44 --> 00:45:48: So the first, the first principle is that cleaning and

00:45:48 --> 00:45:51: disinfection should be effective.

00:45:51 --> 00:45:54: Um, So what we recommend is to 1st clean a

00:45:54 --> 00:45:54: surface.

00:45:54 --> 00:45:57: So that means if there is dirt or grime or

00:45:57 --> 00:46:01: other organics on a surface to 1st clean it and

00:46:01 --> 00:46:04: just soap and water is fine to do that with

00:46:04 --> 00:46:07: and that helps the disinfectant work better.

00:46:07 --> 00:46:09: So if the surface is dirty,

00:46:09 --> 00:46:12: first give it a good clean and then follow up

00:46:12 --> 00:46:16: using one of EPA's registered disinfectants for SARS.

00:46:16 --> 00:46:19: Co V2. So this is this is list in this

00:46:19 --> 00:46:23: is just a really long list of disinfectants that they.

00:46:23 --> 00:46:25: Have approved for use for the virus.

00:46:25 --> 00:46:29: It's important that you make sure that you're following the

00:46:29 --> 00:46:32: instructions for those products very carefully,

00:46:32 --> 00:46:35: so application methods of big one that's various.

00:46:38 --> 00:46:40: And we recommend following those.

00:46:40 --> 00:46:43: Those methods that are outlined on the label of the

00:46:43 --> 00:46:43: product,

00:46:43 --> 00:46:45: as well as contact time.

00:46:45 --> 00:46:48: So contact time is the amount of time that the

00:46:49 --> 00:46:49: product.

00:46:49 --> 00:46:53: With with the surface are objects are really important to

00:46:53 --> 00:46:55: focus on those two things.

00:46:55 --> 00:46:58: If you don't have list in disinfectants which which may

00:46:58 --> 00:47:00: happen in some cases,

00:47:00 --> 00:47:02: you can use household bleach.

00:47:02 --> 00:47:05: So we recommend 1/3 of a Cup of bleach into

00:47:05 --> 00:47:08: a gallon of water so the next principle is that

00:47:08 --> 00:47:12: disinfection should be efficient and so we know there's been  
00:47:12 --> 00:47:16: around on disinfectants over the last few months and that  
00:47:16 --> 00:47:16: may continue,  
00:47:16 --> 00:47:19: so it's really important to be.  
00:47:19 --> 00:47:23: Thoughtful about what you are disinfecting and said the  
things  
00:47:23 --> 00:47:26: that we we think that should be cleaned and disinfected  
00:47:26 --> 00:47:29: are frequently touched by multiple people,  
00:47:29 --> 00:47:31: so these are things like door knobs,  
00:47:31 --> 00:47:34: light switches, faucets and sinks and bathrooms.  
00:47:34 --> 00:47:38: Handles remote controls. A lot of the things that you know  
00:47:38 --> 00:47:40: people are touching multiple times a day.  
00:47:40 --> 00:47:44: There's a number of services that you don't necessarily need  
00:47:44 --> 00:47:45: to disinfect.  
00:47:45 --> 00:47:48: You can just stick with routine cleaning so surfaces and  
00:47:48 --> 00:47:50: objects that just.  
00:47:50 --> 00:47:54: Are frequently touched walls, floor sidewalls covers those  
kinds of  
00:47:54 --> 00:47:55: things.  
00:47:55 --> 00:47:58: Do not require this infection and if you have a  
00:47:58 --> 00:48:01: room or an area that hasn't been used by anyone  
00:48:01 --> 00:48:03: in the last seven days,  
00:48:03 --> 00:48:06: those areas also do not need to be disinfected.  
00:48:06 --> 00:48:10: You can just continue on with your regular routine cleaning  
00:48:10 --> 00:48:11: in those spaces.  
00:48:11 --> 00:48:15: And Lastly, we really recommend that cleaning and  
disinfection be  
00:48:15 --> 00:48:16: safe,  
00:48:16 --> 00:48:19: so it's important that your staff or you or whoever  
00:48:19 --> 00:48:22: is working with these different chemicals.  
00:48:22 --> 00:48:25: Really understand how to apply them,  
00:48:25 --> 00:48:27: how they really focus on the label.  
00:48:27 --> 00:48:31: Make sure that they understand what concentrations should  
be should  
00:48:31 --> 00:48:31: be used.  
00:48:31 --> 00:48:34: Personal protective equipment that that really.  
00:48:34 --> 00:48:36: A lot of times is just gloves.  
00:48:36 --> 00:48:40: Sometimes there may be additional PPE required and that  
that's  
00:48:40 --> 00:48:42: usually on the label of the product,  
00:48:42 --> 00:48:45: but make sure that staff have access to PPE to  
00:48:45 --> 00:48:50: use these products and ensure that there's sufficient  
ventilation for

00:48:50 --> 00:48:51: the disinfectants,  
00:48:51 --> 00:48:56: especially important for. People who might have asthma.  
00:48:56 --> 00:48:59: And of course, keep all disinfectants out of the reach  
00:48:59 --> 00:49:00: of children.  
00:49:00 --> 00:49:03: That's that's a really big one to remember and storing  
00:49:03 --> 00:49:07: these disinfectants appropriately so we kind of kept it simple  
00:49:07 --> 00:49:09: for cleaning and disinfection.  
00:49:09 --> 00:49:12: We really just want to hit the highlights of really  
00:49:13 --> 00:49:16: focusing in on those high touch surface is that's really  
00:49:16 --> 00:49:17: the thing to go for,  
00:49:17 --> 00:49:20: as as people are starting to come into new new  
00:49:20 --> 00:49:21: spaces.  
00:49:21 --> 00:49:24: So with that I will take questions when the time  
00:49:24 --> 00:49:24: is right.  
00:49:24 --> 00:49:27: Thank you. We're going to pass it to one person  
00:49:28 --> 00:49:30: who was not initially on the agenda,  
00:49:30 --> 00:49:32: but we're excited to have her here with us,  
00:49:32 --> 00:49:35: and that's manner, or she is the president of the  
00:49:35 --> 00:49:37: Midtown Baltimore Benefits District.  
00:49:37 --> 00:49:40: And I know you've been dealing a lot with parks  
00:49:40 --> 00:49:43: and open space during this time and love to hear  
00:49:43 --> 00:49:44: from you.  
00:49:44 --> 00:49:48: First off, thank you for allowing me to participate today.  
00:49:48 --> 00:49:49: Um, it's really a privilege,  
00:49:49 --> 00:49:53: and I'd also like to express my sincere condolences to  
00:49:53 --> 00:49:54: those of you who have lost.  
00:49:54 --> 00:49:58: A colleague certainly adds to the stress of the time,  
00:49:58 --> 00:50:00: so please accept those from me.  
00:50:00 --> 00:50:02: For those of you who are unfamiliar,  
00:50:02 --> 00:50:07: Baltimore has five different Community benefits districts or  
00:50:07 --> 00:50:08: business improvement  
00:50:07 --> 00:50:08: districts.  
00:50:08 --> 00:50:11: If you're not familiar with those were funded through an  
00:50:11 --> 00:50:14: additional surcharge on property taxes for Midtown,  
00:50:14 --> 00:50:17: that's both residential and commercial.  
00:50:17 --> 00:50:20: Properties and we're were created about 25 years ago in  
00:50:20 --> 00:50:23: our whole purpose is to augment City services.  
00:50:23 --> 00:50:25: We are not meant to replace them,  
00:50:25 --> 00:50:28: but we are to do a higher and deeper level  
00:50:28 --> 00:50:31: of work than what the city is capable of doing.  
00:50:31 --> 00:50:34: Sewer main focuses on cleaning the streets,  
00:50:34 --> 00:50:38: providing safety patrols with off duty police officers and then

00:50:38 --> 00:50:40: working in the parks and parks.  
00:50:40 --> 00:50:44: Includes our not just our open spaces that are officially  
00:50:44 --> 00:50:45: labeled as parks,  
00:50:45 --> 00:50:47: but also as many of you I know.  
00:50:47 --> 00:50:50: Have those spaces that are.  
00:50:50 --> 00:50:52: Shall we say?  
00:50:52 --> 00:50:57: Leftover remnants of the 1960s through 80s Housing  
Authority builds  
00:50:57 --> 00:51:01: throughout our country that got labeled as Park San may  
00:51:01 --> 00:51:03: or may not function as such.  
00:51:03 --> 00:51:06: So what we have really been doing from day one,  
00:51:06 --> 00:51:09: we never stopped working since March 13th.  
00:51:09 --> 00:51:12: We have continued to provide service,  
00:51:12 --> 00:51:15: but we have limited that service excessively.  
00:51:15 --> 00:51:17: We're really small crew anyway.  
00:51:17 --> 00:51:21: We only have about 15 people total on our in-house  
00:51:21 --> 00:51:21: staff,  
00:51:21 --> 00:51:24: not including those off duty officers.  
00:51:24 --> 00:51:27: And so from day one we were very honest with  
00:51:27 --> 00:51:30: our community about how frequently we were going to be  
00:51:30 --> 00:51:31: available to work,  
00:51:31 --> 00:51:34: which is every other day and that that meant that  
00:51:34 --> 00:51:36: there would be 2 crew people,  
00:51:36 --> 00:51:37: an one manager on duty,  
00:51:37 --> 00:51:40: who frequently also functions as a crew person,  
00:51:40 --> 00:51:42: driving and track sweeping the street,  
00:51:42 --> 00:51:45: driving litter back, whatever might need to happen,  
00:51:45 --> 00:51:49: and that we were limiting all of our other services  
00:51:49 --> 00:51:50: to the bare bones.  
00:51:50 --> 00:51:52: And that because of that,  
00:51:52 --> 00:51:55: what we needed was their help in identifying the really  
00:51:55 --> 00:51:58: difficult or repeat offender locations.  
00:51:58 --> 00:52:02: Illegal dumping trees down. We've had an awful lot of  
00:52:02 --> 00:52:03: rain this spring,  
00:52:03 --> 00:52:05: so we can really heavy windstorms,  
00:52:05 --> 00:52:08: you know. Any of those types of things that were  
00:52:08 --> 00:52:11: of severe concern to them that they needed to email  
00:52:11 --> 00:52:13: us or call into the office so we could handle  
00:52:13 --> 00:52:16: those. And we've done the majority of that through our  
00:52:16 --> 00:52:17: Facebook page.  
00:52:17 --> 00:52:19: I actually joked with Sarah earlier today.  
00:52:19 --> 00:52:21: Please don't look at our website.

00:52:21 --> 00:52:24: Go straight to our Facebook page that Midtown Baltimore has

00:52:24 --> 00:52:25: a lot of you know,

00:52:25 --> 00:52:27: some of the positive things we've been doing.

00:52:27 --> 00:52:30: So from day one, we've been very straightforward.

00:52:30 --> 00:52:33: But we've also been really clear about if people feel

00:52:33 --> 00:52:36: comfortable and we started this only with our board members.

00:52:36 --> 00:52:40: And are known volunteers. If they felt comfortable going out,

00:52:40 --> 00:52:43: and if there were projects or things that they wanted

00:52:43 --> 00:52:45: to work on that they were more than welcome to

00:52:45 --> 00:52:46: do so.

00:52:46 --> 00:52:47: As long as they did so safely.

00:52:47 --> 00:52:50: Whatever safe version of safe at that time.

00:52:50 --> 00:52:52: Throughout this progression of incidences,

00:52:52 --> 00:52:55: so really encourage them to let us know what they

00:52:55 --> 00:52:56: were doing,

00:52:56 --> 00:52:57: where they were dropping bags,

00:52:57 --> 00:53:00: or if they were playing a game of pick up

00:53:00 --> 00:53:04: sticks after a windstorm where they were leaving the branches

00:53:04 --> 00:53:06: in the sticks so we could come get them.

00:53:06 --> 00:53:09: So what we've seen is that people really want to

00:53:09 --> 00:53:10: participate,

00:53:10 --> 00:53:13: and they want to be helpful in their communities or

00:53:13 --> 00:53:14: in their cities,

00:53:14 --> 00:53:17: but they don't know how they might be carless,

00:53:17 --> 00:53:19: so they can't do Meals on Wheels,

00:53:19 --> 00:53:22: which is something that I know here in Baltimore has

00:53:22 --> 00:53:24: been really popular as far as needing help,

00:53:24 --> 00:53:28: maybe they can't give blood for any number of reasons,

00:53:28 --> 00:53:30: or every time they sign up for a blood drive,

00:53:30 --> 00:53:33: it's already full.

00:53:33 --> 00:53:36: Maybe they're too scared or concerned for their own safety.

00:53:36 --> 00:53:40: Maybe they have a pre existing condition that doesn't allow

00:53:40 --> 00:53:43: them to feel safe in those types of settings parks

00:53:43 --> 00:53:46: an also just generally streets and sidewalks are really easy

00:53:46 --> 00:53:49: ways for people to give back and give back on

00:53:49 --> 00:53:51: their own time in a non threatening way.

00:53:51 --> 00:53:54: And certainly in in what I love to think of

00:53:54 --> 00:53:56: as a non committal way right?

00:53:56 --> 00:53:58: You're not signing up to be on a board or

00:53:58 --> 00:54:01: not signing up two months of service and you know

00:54:01 --> 00:54:02: foreign country.  
00:54:02 --> 00:54:05: It's a really simple thing that if you have 15  
00:54:05 --> 00:54:06: extra minutes in your day.  
00:54:06 --> 00:54:08: You can put your gloves on,  
00:54:08 --> 00:54:10: put a mask on, grab a trash bag,  
00:54:10 --> 00:54:13: fill it up by just walking down your street,  
00:54:13 --> 00:54:15: go out to the park and pull some weeds and  
00:54:15 --> 00:54:19: what we've really found is that people are all starting  
00:54:19 --> 00:54:19: to,  
00:54:19 --> 00:54:22: you know, again, are known volunteers who have taken on  
00:54:22 --> 00:54:26: certain spaces have really stepped up in their performance,  
00:54:26 --> 00:54:29: but then also have started to bring along other volunteers.  
00:54:29 --> 00:54:30: So if you know \*\*\*\*\*  
00:54:30 --> 00:54:34: is our diehard volunteer who's been working in that block  
00:54:34 --> 00:54:35: of the park for years,  
00:54:35 --> 00:54:38: and Jane is out walking her dog and she sees  
00:54:38 --> 00:54:38: \*\*\*\*\*  
00:54:38 --> 00:54:40: and yells at him from a distance.  
00:54:40 --> 00:54:41: Hey, what can I do?  
00:54:41 --> 00:54:43: To be helpful, and he says,  
00:54:43 --> 00:54:44: here's what you can do,  
00:54:44 --> 00:54:47: and so we're seeing them starting to make connections.  
00:54:47 --> 00:54:51: We're making sure that we're listening into them on  
Facebook  
00:54:51 --> 00:54:53: and jumping in and telling them how to do.  
00:54:53 --> 00:54:56: You know how to participate and be involved.  
00:54:56 --> 00:54:59: So we've taken a real opportunity to do things like  
00:54:59 --> 00:55:02: dropping off piles of mulch with a couple of tree  
00:55:02 --> 00:55:04: planners who are also doing things.  
00:55:04 --> 00:55:06: So we're doing whatever we can do with only one  
00:55:06 --> 00:55:07: or Max.  
00:55:07 --> 00:55:09: Two of our staff people that they then can do  
00:55:09 --> 00:55:10: is individual,  
00:55:10 --> 00:55:13: so you know we're hoping that's building a new volunteer  
00:55:13 --> 00:55:14: base.  
00:55:14 --> 00:55:17: And that we're providing an finding new advocates,  
00:55:17 --> 00:55:18: not just for our District,  
00:55:18 --> 00:55:22: Ann Farrar spaces, but also for future money and legislation  
00:55:22 --> 00:55:23: in a post Covid world,  
00:55:23 --> 00:55:26: we all know parks are always underfunded,  
00:55:26 --> 00:55:28: and we're hoping this is a way to tie in  
00:55:28 --> 00:55:30: and bring in more volunteers.

00:55:30 --> 00:55:33: So I know you all probably have questions for the  
00:55:33 --> 00:55:34: various panelists,  
00:55:34 --> 00:55:36: so I'm going to wrap it up and just say  
00:55:36 --> 00:55:36: again,  
00:55:36 --> 00:55:39: thank you and best of luck to all of you  
00:55:39 --> 00:55:41: who are working in this realm.  
00:55:41 --> 00:55:43: It's it's a trying time for all of us.  
00:55:43 --> 00:55:45: Thank you, nan. And thank you,  
00:55:45 --> 00:55:48: Catherine Nicholas, Janet Ann, Jennifer for all of the amazing  
00:55:48 --> 00:55:49: work.  
00:55:49 --> 00:55:53: That you are doing to protect our communities across the  
00:55:53 --> 00:55:53: country.  
00:55:53 --> 00:55:56: We do have a number of questions coming in the  
00:55:56 --> 00:55:57: chat box.  
00:55:57 --> 00:56:01: You can continue to upvote and put those questions into  
00:56:01 --> 00:56:04: the Q&A and we'll get to as many as possible  
00:56:04 --> 00:56:06: as we can in the next 10 minutes on one  
00:56:06 --> 00:56:09: of the things that I love about you lie is  
00:56:09 --> 00:56:14: the diversity of membership an it's certainly coming through  
on  
00:56:14 --> 00:56:17: upvotes here that we have a lot of designers and  
00:56:17 --> 00:56:20: planners on the call. So we're going to start with.  
00:56:20 --> 00:56:24: The top questions here that are related to parks and  
00:56:24 --> 00:56:28: open space and what do we predict as the future  
00:56:28 --> 00:56:32: of how we should be planning and designing our parks  
00:56:32 --> 00:56:37: and open spaces? Particularly thinking about this pandemic  
and perhaps  
00:56:37 --> 00:56:42: what this pandemic has highlighted those inequities in park  
access,  
00:56:42 --> 00:56:47: whether that be physical distance to the park space or  
00:56:47 --> 00:56:50: maybe even the type of park space that people have.  
00:56:50 --> 00:56:56: Access to so wondering maybe Catherine or Nicholas if you  
00:56:57 --> 00:57:00: want to start on this question.  
00:57:00 --> 00:57:03: And I'm also, I think maybe you can see I  
00:57:03 --> 00:57:06: was answering a lot of questions on the DNA.  
00:57:06 --> 00:57:12: Yeah, um can I complain too much ohmygod?  
00:57:12 --> 00:57:15: No worries so. So we have a lot of planner,  
00:57:15 --> 00:57:20: designer, gonna call and this this particular question is about  
00:57:20 --> 00:57:23: somebody who is in the process of planning a new  
00:57:23 --> 00:57:28: urban park and what sort of the predictions or  
recommendations  
00:57:28 --> 00:57:31: might be towards how we design in the future.  
00:57:31 --> 00:57:33: Our parks and open space.



00:57:33 --> 00:57:36: So what do you see in this current moment that  
00:57:36 --> 00:57:40: might be highlighted or or how would you imagine parks  
00:57:40 --> 00:57:42: and open spaces to be redesigned?  
00:57:42 --> 00:57:46: In the future. Yeah, I know there's a lot of  
00:57:46 --> 00:57:47: you know fan,  
00:57:47 --> 00:57:50: you know, critiques on either side of this,  
00:57:50 --> 00:57:53: but I think the more flexible the space can be,  
00:57:53 --> 00:57:56: the better you know. I think what we're seeing is,  
00:57:56 --> 00:57:58: you know.  
00:57:58 --> 00:58:02: Is that can be used for multiple audiences and multiple,  
00:58:02 --> 00:58:05: you know, needs and activities are are better and you  
00:58:05 --> 00:58:08: know the more open the spaces you know is is  
00:58:08 --> 00:58:11: better for certainly the pandemic that we're in.  
00:58:11 --> 00:58:14: I think the trails you know what we initially what  
00:58:14 --> 00:58:17: we thought was appropriate for the width of a trail.  
00:58:17 --> 00:58:21: You know the standard trail with is is obviously not  
00:58:21 --> 00:58:24: not not good enough right now during a pandemic.  
00:58:24 --> 00:58:26: And were you know really struggling with,  
00:58:26 --> 00:58:30: you know the overcrowding of the trials because of the  
00:58:30 --> 00:58:32: width of the trail so.  
00:58:32 --> 00:58:35: You know, that's one example of something that may  
change,  
00:58:35 --> 00:58:38: you know, because of this of this pandemic,  
00:58:38 --> 00:58:40: but I I think just you know,  
00:58:40 --> 00:58:45: thinking about the flexibility of spaces is really important.  
00:58:45 --> 00:58:47: Yeah, I agree with Catherine.  
00:58:47 --> 00:58:49: Uh, that's a tough question.  
00:58:49 --> 00:58:52: I mean, if you go back to the original intent  
00:58:53 --> 00:58:55: of a public park in the 1st place was to  
00:58:55 --> 00:59:00: provide access to outdoors in nature that everyone could  
share,  
00:59:00 --> 00:59:04: sort it together. I think that is still very important.  
00:59:04 --> 00:59:07: I just think that we'll have to figure out through  
00:59:07 --> 00:59:11: some kind of policies and procedures how we how we  
00:59:11 --> 00:59:15: stabilize the social distancing as a part of the way  
00:59:15 --> 00:59:18: that people think about using the share spaces but.  
00:59:18 --> 00:59:21: I mean the need for parks and rec and open  
00:59:21 --> 00:59:23: space is never going to decrease.  
00:59:23 --> 00:59:26: I mean, obviously we've demonstrated that parks and REC is  
00:59:26 --> 00:59:29: both good for our physical bodies as well as our  
00:59:29 --> 00:59:32: mental bodies and so our thought processes and the way  
00:59:32 --> 00:59:35: we in the way we think about things and so  
00:59:35 --> 00:59:36: it's just really important.

00:59:36 --> 00:59:39: I think it's always going to be important to have  
00:59:39 --> 00:59:41: open space for people to enjoy.  
00:59:41 --> 00:59:43: I think we just have to rethink it.  
00:59:43 --> 00:59:45: And, you know, in the face of kovit  
00:59:48 --> 00:59:51: Great thanks anything from CDC on this design question.  
00:59:51 --> 00:59:54: I know Janet, you think about this in your work  
00:59:54 --> 00:59:56: to get people more active?  
00:59:56 --> 00:59:58: Yeah yeah we think about it all the time.  
00:59:58 --> 01:00:01: We think about connecting people to parks,  
01:00:01 --> 01:00:04: making it easy for people to get to and from.  
01:00:04 --> 01:00:07: So we think about if you're going to build a  
01:00:07 --> 01:00:07: sidewalk,  
01:00:07 --> 01:00:10: you know it needs to connect people for example,  
01:00:10 --> 01:00:13: from their home to apart from their home to work.  
01:00:13 --> 01:00:17: It's really about connecting people an you know and it's  
01:00:17 --> 01:00:19: trails can connect people to.  
01:00:19 --> 01:00:21: And you know, I think,  
01:00:21 --> 01:00:25: like in terms of just the planning like planning parks.  
01:00:25 --> 01:00:29: You know maybe. And if open space is important,  
01:00:29 --> 01:00:31: we need to keep people apart.  
01:00:31 --> 01:00:34: You know, making sure there's enough open space to allow  
01:00:34 --> 01:00:37: the population to to behave in that way.  
01:00:37 --> 01:00:40: You know making sure that that parks are available to  
01:00:40 --> 01:00:41: people.  
01:00:41 --> 01:00:42: I think I think. Also,  
01:00:42 --> 01:00:45: you know, like some in some of the work that  
01:00:45 --> 01:00:47: we've been doing with you all,  
01:00:47 --> 01:00:50: it's also about letting people know that there's a park  
01:00:50 --> 01:00:51: there.  
01:00:51 --> 01:00:54: I think you know making sure that people are aware  
01:00:54 --> 01:00:57: that it's there and aware of the amenities that are  
01:00:57 --> 01:00:59: there at the park as well,  
01:00:59 --> 01:01:02: so. It's it's about availability,  
01:01:02 --> 01:01:06: but it's also about awareness I think too.  
01:01:06 --> 01:01:09: I would love to know what other folks think and  
01:01:09 --> 01:01:12: I would say you know we love the idea of  
01:01:12 --> 01:01:13: closing streets to cars.  
01:01:13 --> 01:01:16: I mean, this is like a side benefit.  
01:01:16 --> 01:01:21: That's happened all these unintentional consequences that  
01:01:21 --> 01:01:21: have happened through  
01:01:21 --> 01:01:21: this,  
01:01:21 --> 01:01:24: so the Silver Linings are fantastic.

01:01:24 --> 01:01:26: And if there's a way to keep some of those  
01:01:26 --> 01:01:27: going,  
01:01:27 --> 01:01:29: that would be amazing.  
01:01:29 --> 01:01:33: I'll just also say that I think one of the  
01:01:33 --> 01:01:34: things too is,  
01:01:34 --> 01:01:38: you know, just for decision makers to gain that appreciation  
01:01:38 --> 01:01:42: of parks and open spaces is really important.  
01:01:42 --> 01:01:45: And I know you guys work on that everyday,  
01:01:45 --> 01:01:48: but the ability of you all to show the that  
01:01:48 --> 01:01:53: economic benefit of parks is really important to the extent  
01:01:53 --> 01:01:55: that you can do that.  
01:01:55 --> 01:01:58: That really helps everyone. It certainly helps us,  
01:01:58 --> 01:02:02: and so I think. As you think about like going  
01:02:02 --> 01:02:03: forward,  
01:02:03 --> 01:02:05: justifying the value of parks,  
01:02:05 --> 01:02:10: but doing it from an economic perspective is really helpful.  
01:02:12 --> 01:02:15: If I could, just if I can just add to  
01:02:15 --> 01:02:17: that I know we're all parks.  
01:02:17 --> 01:02:21: Agencies are facing big big budget crunches due to this  
01:02:21 --> 01:02:22: pandemic,  
01:02:22 --> 01:02:26: but if you think about you know the vast majority  
01:02:26 --> 01:02:30: of of staff that that an agency like Philadelphia and  
01:02:30 --> 01:02:34: Caring Staff was able to immediately mobilize and be food  
01:02:34 --> 01:02:38: service that we can immediately open recreation centers to  
be  
01:02:39 --> 01:02:42: testing facilities that we can immediately use.  
01:02:42 --> 01:02:45: You know our our spaces to reactivate and become food  
01:02:46 --> 01:02:50: distribution or or emergency essential distribution for the  
community.  
01:02:50 --> 01:02:53: So we need to encourage all of you to to  
01:02:53 --> 01:02:56: capture all of this that that parks and Rec is  
01:02:56 --> 01:02:58: able to do in a pandemic,  
01:02:58 --> 01:03:01: so that when we go back to present our budgets,  
01:03:01 --> 01:03:04: it's not just an emotional plea for keeping places for  
01:03:04 --> 01:03:06: kids and for people to recreate,  
01:03:06 --> 01:03:10: but these are facilities that we use in emergency situations.  
01:03:10 --> 01:03:14: We're able to mobilize. And create.  
01:03:14 --> 01:03:17: Standards and and to create.  
01:03:19 --> 01:03:21: To create options for the city to use our facilities.  
01:03:21 --> 01:03:22: To be able to serve.  
01:03:22 --> 01:03:25: To serve the city. So I think it's important to  
01:03:25 --> 01:03:29: keep that on the forefront of Woodward what we're  
presenting.

01:03:29 --> 01:03:31: Yeah, if I if I can add to Rachel that  
01:03:31 --> 01:03:34: I think we've done a decent job trying to shift  
01:03:34 --> 01:03:37: this narrative nationally around Parks and Recreation.  
01:03:37 --> 01:03:40: A civic infrastructure, right? I think we need to do  
01:03:40 --> 01:03:42: the same in terms of Parks and Recreation as a  
01:03:42 --> 01:03:44: human and social service.  
01:03:44 --> 01:03:46: We're not there yet and we and and you know,  
01:03:46 --> 01:03:49: if if this was if we really considered what we  
01:03:49 --> 01:03:51: do is a human and social service,  
01:03:51 --> 01:03:54: which I think anybody who's seen the way Parks and  
01:03:54 --> 01:03:57: Recreation have responded to this crisis over the last eight  
01:03:57 --> 01:03:58: weeks.  
01:03:58 --> 01:03:59: Nobody would deny that were.  
01:03:59 --> 01:04:04: Providing essential human and social services and you know  
we  
01:04:04 --> 01:04:06: need to be funded as such.  
01:04:06 --> 01:04:10: Absolutely, and I know that this question isn't in the  
01:04:10 --> 01:04:10: chat box,  
01:04:10 --> 01:04:15: but when I've been thinking about particularly in keeping in  
01:04:15 --> 01:04:19: mind that you Ally membership is what are ways that  
01:04:19 --> 01:04:22: we can partner together to lift up the essential role  
01:04:22 --> 01:04:25: of Parks and Recreation an this pandemic,  
01:04:25 --> 01:04:30: and particularly think we thinking about how private sector  
partners  
01:04:30 --> 01:04:34: may play a role in in that partnership and thinking  
01:04:34 --> 01:04:37: about finances for Parks and Recreation.  
01:04:42 --> 01:04:45: Well, I certainly think it's about advocacy,  
01:04:45 --> 01:04:47: you know, I. You know,  
01:04:47 --> 01:04:51: I think I think and how we build this narrative  
01:04:51 --> 01:04:54: and share this narrative and speak with with one voice  
01:04:54 --> 01:04:55: around.  
01:04:55 --> 01:04:58: It is really important, and I think you know,  
01:04:58 --> 01:05:00: the more you know we can be supported.  
01:05:00 --> 01:05:03: You know in terms of direct project support,  
01:05:03 --> 01:05:07: an in kind support you know from from the incredible  
01:05:07 --> 01:05:09: talent that exists out there,  
01:05:09 --> 01:05:11: you know is great.  
01:05:11 --> 01:05:14: You know, I know, we're all going to be facing  
01:05:14 --> 01:05:16: this incredible economic recovery.  
01:05:16 --> 01:05:18: So the last thing people are going to want to  
01:05:18 --> 01:05:20: do is is to do pro bono work.  
01:05:20 --> 01:05:22: But you know, we're going to need it now more  
01:05:22 --> 01:05:24: than ever and you know,

01:05:24 --> 01:05:27: we have an incredible volunteer based in Philadelphia.  
01:05:27 --> 01:05:29: We have 148 parks after essentially run by park friends  
01:05:30 --> 01:05:30: groups.  
01:05:30 --> 01:05:32: And you know, I'm speaking to them this week and  
01:05:33 --> 01:05:35: we're going to need them now more than ever.  
01:05:35 --> 01:05:38: Two were cutting 90 at least 90 seasonal maintenance  
positions,  
01:05:38 --> 01:05:41: you know, which means that our parks will not be  
01:05:41 --> 01:05:42: very tidy this summer.  
01:05:42 --> 01:05:46: Almost volunteers come out to support us and and do  
01:05:46 --> 01:05:47: the work of city government.  
01:05:47 --> 01:05:49: I hate to have to ask that,  
01:05:49 --> 01:05:52: you know, but you know if we want to continue  
01:05:52 --> 01:05:55: to to see parks as a real economic and community  
01:05:55 --> 01:05:59: development driver that we believe they are both locally  
hyper  
01:05:59 --> 01:06:03: locally and also you know regionally in terms of tourism,  
01:06:03 --> 01:06:05: you know we can't let this crisis.  
01:06:05 --> 01:06:08: And this downturn, you know do things to our parks  
01:06:08 --> 01:06:11: that you know will have long term effects.  
01:06:11 --> 01:06:13: So we have to do what we can to stay  
01:06:14 --> 01:06:14: the course.  
01:06:14 --> 01:06:17: And and hopefully make it through this.  
01:06:17 --> 01:06:19: You know an and two years from now.  
01:06:19 --> 01:06:23: Once we're through the recovery and hopefully back in about  
01:06:23 --> 01:06:24: their economic state,  
01:06:24 --> 01:06:27: you know, put our money where I'm out this.  
01:06:31 --> 01:06:33: Great thanks.  
01:06:33 --> 01:06:36: We are also seeing we have 9:00 o'clock,  
01:06:36 --> 01:06:40: just changed to two 12:15 I was thinking we had  
01:06:40 --> 01:06:43: a couple minutes left but we are at time.  
01:06:43 --> 01:06:47: I know that there are a number of unanswered questions  
01:06:48 --> 01:06:49: in the chat box.  
01:06:49 --> 01:06:54: Several of these are answered through at Rpa's COVID-19  
resources  
01:06:54 --> 01:06:56: and through the CDC's guidance,  
01:06:56 --> 01:07:00: thinking about pools and open space and summer camps.  
01:07:00 --> 01:07:04: So I do encourage you to turn to those resources.  
01:07:04 --> 01:07:09: If you are looking for guidance and want to thank  
01:07:09 --> 01:07:14: our panelists again for the tremendous amount of work that  
01:07:14 --> 01:07:19: they are doing to provide essential services to communities  
and  
01:07:19 --> 01:07:24: continue to ensure that we are all have places to

01:07:24 --> 01:07:28: be active and healthy in the outdoors.  
01:07:28 --> 01:07:33: So thank you all for joining us today annually anything  
01:07:33 --> 01:07:36: else to add us as we wrap up this web  
01:07:36 --> 01:07:36: and R.  
01:07:36 --> 01:07:40: Yeah, so just thanks. Thanks again to Rachel Nicholas,  
01:07:40 --> 01:07:42: Catherine, Janet, Jennifer Ann nan.  
01:07:42 --> 01:07:46: I know that I learned a lot and I'm sure  
01:07:46 --> 01:07:47: audience did too.  
01:07:47 --> 01:07:51: Attendees, please be sure to join us next week for  
01:07:51 --> 01:07:54: a webinar highlighting insights from Asia.  
01:07:54 --> 01:07:58: As I mentioned before, this webinar will be posted at  
01:07:58 --> 01:08:02: knowledge.ui.org and will send a link to all of you  
01:08:02 --> 01:08:03: to access that.  
01:08:03 --> 01:08:07: Thank you for joining us today until next time.  
01:08:07 --> 01:08:10: Stacy say healthy and stay safe and all of our  
01:08:10 --> 01:08:11: very best.

---

*This video transcript has been machine-generated, so it may not be accurate. It is for personal use only. Reproduction or use without written permission is prohibited. If you have a correction or for permission inquiries, please contact [\[email protected\]](#).*