

Dearest customers,

Many of you have now seen the Alameda County Order to 'Shelter in Place' issued on Monday 3/16/2020.

As part of the Market Hall Foods family of businesses, The Pasta Shop falls within the definition of 'Essential Businesses'. As such, we will be open for the duration of the Shelter in Place order. Currently, **our business and delivery schedules remain unchanged; we will also still be present at the Ferry Plaza Farmers Market.**

At this time of uncertainty, we want to let you know that our highest priority is the health of both our staff and customers. We will be transparent and proactive in our efforts. As a community, we've met many challenges over the last thirty years, and we have the resilience to weather this challenge, too.

We are following the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), as well as our local health departments and have conducted additional staff training, including our delivery drivers, to reinforce them. Currently these recommendations for our staff include:

- Increased frequency of handwashing with soap and water. This is the top recommendation to protect against airborne diseases.
- Covering one's mouth when coughing and sneezing and handwashing immediately afterward in all cases.
- Frequently disinfecting surfaces, including door handles and handrails.
- Staying home if one feels unwell or a member of your household feels unwell. (All of our employees receive paid sick leave/paid time off.)

In response to customer questions, we're sharing this excerpt issued by the CDC regarding COVID-19 and food (current as of 3/26/2020):

"Currently there is no evidence to support transmission of COVID-19 associated with food. Before preparing or eating food it is important to always wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds for general food safety. In general, because of poor survivability of these coronaviruses on surfaces, there is likely very low risk of spread from food products or packaging that are shipped over a period of days or weeks at ambient, refrigerated, or frozen temperatures."

[View the statement in full.](#)

Here are two useful community health resources:

[The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#)
[CA.gov](#)

We deeply appreciate your support to small businesses like ours during this difficult period.

Thank you,

The Pasta Shop and the rest of the Market Hall Foods family of businesses.