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### HIGH POINT FARMERS MARKET SETS OPENING DATE

**High Point, N.C. (April 8, 2020)** – The High Point Farmers Market will be open April 18 and April 25, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to ensure that fresh food is available to the community. In North Carolina, farmers markets fall under the same classification as grocery stores and are considered an important source of food for our communities, according to the N.C. Department of Agriculture. The only vendors will be food vendors selling fresh, local produce including strawberries, lettuce, kale, spring vegetables and hothouse tomatoes.

“Safety for the vendors, consumers and staff is of utmost importance, so we have developed guidelines that must be followed,” said Mary Sizemore, Library Director. “Two of our top priorities for the Market are to provide access to fresh, locally grown produce and to support our local farmers. We are taking guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service and the National Farmers Market Coalition to ensure that our priorities are met while keeping everyone safe.”

To protect our community and help prevent the spread of the coronavirus, the High Point Farmers Market will operate under special guidelines until it is determined that it is safe to resume regular activities.

#### Guidelines:

- Vendors must set up in every other stall to accommodate social distancing.
- Vendors may not openly display produce on a table and are encouraged to provide a product list. However, vendors may place individual representative food items on the table that will be disposed of at the end of the day.
- Vendors are required to wear gloves and wipe down their table with disinfectant after every transaction.
- Customers must enter and leave only through designated pathways.
- Customers must observe social distancing.
- If necessary, Farmers Market staff will limit the number of customers allowed in the vendor area.
- Freestanding hand sanitizer stations will be available for public and vendor use.



Residents who are feeling unwell are asked to stay home. Residents are also asked to wash their hands frequently, cover their mouth with a tissue or the crease of the elbow if they cough or sneeze and avoid touching their faces.

“We are looking forward to another successful and fun year at the High Point Farmers Market,” said Lee Gann, Market Manager. “Thank you for your continued support of the Farmers Market and our vendors during these unique circumstances.”

*The High Point Farmers Market is operated under the direction of the High Point Public Library, a department of the City of High Point. The mission of the High Point Farmers Market is to promote a healthy lifestyle and a sense of community in a family-friendly gathering place.*

*The City of High Point aims to serve as the catalyst for bringing together the community’s human, economic and civic resources for the purpose of creating the single most livable, safe and prosperous community in America. For more information on the City, visit [www.highpointnc.gov](http://www.highpointnc.gov).*

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