

Message from the Mayor Regarding the State of Emergency Declaration

To the Citizens of Kameoka

Firstly, I wish to express my deepest gratitude for everyone's understanding and support in working towards preventing the spread of COVID-19.

However, the spread of this virus has yet to be resolved. The situation around the country has become dire with Tokyo, Kanagawa, Saitama, and Chiba Prefectures once again being put under the "State of Emergency Declaration" on January 7th. Kameoka has also been experiencing new cases every day, with the number of cases exceeding 100 as of January 8th. Under these harsh circumstances, Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo, Tochigi, Gifu, Aichi and Fukuoka Prefectures were also placed under a "State of Emergency" for the 2nd time as of January 13th. We have yet again arrived at a situation that requires our utmost attention.

Under such circumstances, Kameoka held the "Kameoka COVID-19 Prevention Headquarters Prevention Conference" the very same day that the "State of Emergency" Declaration was put into effect. From this conference, Kameoka confirmed that it will strengthen its virus prevention efforts even further. A request from Kyoto was sent out to all regions in the prefecture stating the following: 1) To refrain from going outside inessentially 2) To refrain from holding events 3) To limit the usage of facilities 4) To limit the number of people at workplaces 5) To have universities conduct infection prevention procedures and have students refrain from any activity that could increase the chances of infection. To the citizens and businesses of Kameoka, I ask for your cooperation in refraining from leaving your house unnecessarily, in following the special guidelines when holding events, in reducing operating hours for restaurants and leisure facilities, in promoting telework, and in refraining from any actions with a high risk of infection. City-operated facilities within Kameoka have also been requested to finish operations by 8pm. I apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause. In order for us to protect ourselves, our family members, and the people most important to us, I ask you all for your cooperation.

Furthermore, regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, preparations are currently taking place under the government's leadership. In the case that a vaccine has been approved, its implementation within Kameoka will take place according to the schedule put forward by the government. The responsible departments are currently in talks with medical institutions, and efforts are being put towards a system of implementation.

In this so called COVID-19 "3rd Wave" we are unable to see what the future holds. I would like to once again express my gratitude to the citizens and business for their cooperation in preventing the virus and changing their habits despite being placed under a sense of uncertainty and restriction. Kameoka city is in intermittent contact with related organizations in order to put its full efforts towards ensuring the health, safety and security of its citizens. I thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation.

January 13th 2021

Mayor of Kameoka, KATSURAGAWA Takahiro