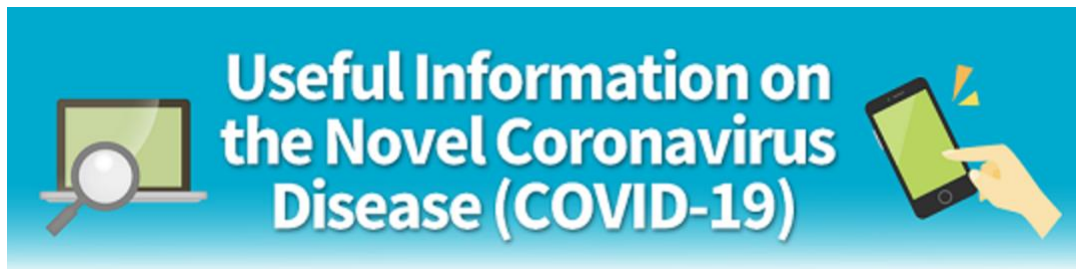




## State of Emergency Declared by Prime Minister Abe in All Prefectures

On April 7, the Japanese government declared a State of Emergency for Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa, Osaka, Hyogo and Fukuoka prefectures in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). On April 16, the State of Emergency was expanded to cover all 47 prefectures. The declaration will last through May 6, 2020. On April 17, Prime Minister Abe held a press conference during which he asked the public to please refrain from going out. Reach his statement [here](#).



## Japan's Government Response to COVID-19

Please check out the links below for the latest initiatives and efforts undertaken by the Japanese government to address the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

- [Prime Minister's Office](#)
- [About the Coronavirus Disease \(Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare\)](#)
- [Information Related to COVID-19 \(Ministry of Justice\)](#)
- [Border Enforcement Measures \(Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan\)](#)
- [Press Conference by Minister of Foreign Affairs MOTEGI Toshimitsu \(April 17\)](#)

- [Latest Updates \(Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles\)](#)

Consulate-General of Japan in Los Angeles

在ロサンゼルス日本国総領事館

## Coronavirus Information from the Consulate

### General, Operation of Consular Services, New Window Hours

The Consulate General of Japan's consular services, [including window hours](#), have changed as of March 23, 2020. All visitors to the Consulate General must wear face coverings in accordance with the City of Los Angeles' public order. And in accordance with the "Safer at Home" order issued on March 19, please stay at home as much as possible. But if you do need to go outside, please maintain six feet of social distancing. Click to link to find out more.



## New Dates for Olympics Announced

The Tokyo 2020 Games have been postponed until 2021, with the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 to be held July 23, 2021

to Aug. 8, 2021 and the Paralympic Games to be held from Aug. 24, 2021 to Sept. 5, 2021. Click the headline for information about the new dates. Click [here for the joint statement](#) from the International Olympic Committee and the Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee about the Games' postponement.

## Prime Minister Abe Attends G7 Summit Video Teleconference



Credit: Cabinet Public Relations Office

On April 16, Prime Minister ABE Shinzo attended a G-7 Summit Video Teleconference Meeting. At the latest meeting, which followed a previous video conference on March 16, the participating G7 leaders exchanged views on the economic conditions of each Member State as well as preventive measures against the

spread of COVID-19. Prime Minister Abe elaborated on the current state of Japan's response, such as the government's large scale and bold economic policy, and extending the national state of emergency to all prefectures, while emphasizing the following four points, supported by the participating countries.



Credit: Cabinet Public Relations Office

### Special ASEAN + Japan, China, South Korea Summit on COVID-19 Video Conference Held

On April 14, Prime Minister Abe attended the Special ASEAN+3 Summit on the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) held via video conference. The leaders of Japan,

China and South Korea, and ASEAN member states discussed economic conditions in their nations and regional preventive measures to fight against the spread of COVID-19. Prime Minister Abe talked about the situation in Japan and stated that the expansion of cooperation in ASEAN and the Asian region is extremely important, and urged each nation to share information and knowledge freely, transparently and in a timely manner.



Credit: Cabinet Public Relations Office

## Prime Minister Abe Attends G20 Summit Video Teleconference

On March 26, Prime Minister ABE Shinzo attended the G-20 Summit Video Teleconference Meeting hosted by Saudi Arabia, which holds the G-20 presidency. The participating leaders discussed

economic conditions in their countries as well as measures to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus. Read the Leaders' Statement [here](#).



## G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On March 25, Foreign Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu attended the Group of Seven Foreign Ministers' Meeting via video

conference. The foreign ministers discussed the novel coronavirus outbreak, and agreed to share lessons and findings among the G7 countries and the international community.



Credit: U.S.-Japan Council

## Mourning the Passing of Irene Hirano Inouye

The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles joins with the community in mourning the passing of Irene Hirano Inouye, who made tremendous contributions to the Japan-U.S.

relationship. To honor her leadership, Foreign Minister Motegi and the Consulate General of Japan issued statements.



## Application Now Available for the 14th Japan International MANGA Award

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs founded the International MANGA Award in 2007 with the purpose of expanding international exchange and mutual understanding through MANGA culture. Calling all MANGA artists! The

application period began on April 6, 2020 and lasts until June 19, 2020. For more information, please click the link.



## Supporting Local Communities: Japanese Firms Join COVID-19 Effort!

As members of the Los Angeles area community, on April 9th Consul General of Japan MUTO Akira

encouraged Japanese firms to support the region's efforts on COVID-19. Read his letter [HERE](#).

Examples of Support from Japanese Firms to the Local Community:

### Southern California

- Mazda (Irvine, CA): \$70,000 donation for Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County
- Sony Electronics (San Diego, CA): TV with tuners to homeless shelters of Los Angeles
- Toyota Auto Body Corporation (Long Beach, CA): \$25,000 to The United Way Los Angeles



• Toyota Motor North America (Plano, TX): Total 5,000 face shields to medical institutions (Keck Medicine of USC, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, St. Francis Medical Center)

### Arizona

• IRIS USA(Surprise, AZ): donated 20,000 surgical masks to State of Arizona

On April 22nd, Mayor Garcetti praised the contributions of Japan: "... our consulates, businesses and diasporas who call the city home have stepped up to help LA – we've received PPE from across the globe; thanks to our collaborations with local diplomats, just this week alone, we've seen 115,000 face masks/coverings, 65,000 gloves, and 54,000 face shields headed to hospitals from our Armenian, Chinese, Japanese, and Taiwanese American communities." Likewise, in Arizona, Governor Doug Ducey praised the contributions of Japanese firm.



## Supporting Local Communities: List of Japanese Food Delivery & Take Out

The Consulate General of Japan fully supports local community efforts to help each other through the impact that the COVID-19 outbreak is having on the broader community. For instance, the Japanese Restaurant Association of America has compiled a list of Japanese cuisine restaurants offering delivery or take out services. To find a restaurant in your neighborhood, click the headline!

## Supporting Local Communities: Little Tokyo Restaurants Remain Open for Business!

In a recent statement published in the Rafu Shimpo, Masao Mike Okamoto, who serves as president of the Little Tokyo Business Association, noted how many restaurants are for open for business, taking pick-up orders and in some cases delivery services. So if you're craving something yummy - Little Tokyo may be a good option!



## "Umami" Lectures and Demonstrations Spread the Word About a Key Japanese Food Ingredient!

In early February, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles joined forces with different organizations to jointly host lecture & demonstration events for professional chefs; media and general public; and culinary school students to promote "*Umami*," an important component of Japanese

cuisine.



## "Savor Japan Craft Spirits" Reception Held on Feb. 24 for Japanese Craft Spirits Month

The reception held on Feb. 24 sought to create business opportunities based upon potential customer response to "Japanese Craft Spirits Month," which was held from February 1st to the 29th, 2020.

Shochu manufacturers and wholesalers, such as iichiko USA, Nankai Group, Banzai Beverage Corp., provided their products in their booth, and were joined by two local bartenders serving cocktails created with shochu and awamori, which was donated by Mutual Trading and Nankai Group. JETRO Los Angeles provided more than 20 kinds of shochu and awamori to enhance visitors' understanding of shochu and awamori. Also, Mr. Toshio Ueno from the Sake School of America gave a lecture on shochu and awamori, and introduced rare shochu and awamori varieties. Learn more at the link.



## [Collaborating on Hydrogen Power - Los Angeles and Japan](#)

Last month, two collaborative developments in charting the course towards a hydrogen economy, led by Los Angeles and Japan. In the field of power generation, the Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power, America's largest municipal utility, announced that they will be sourcing electricity produced by a groundbreaking facility owned by Intermountain Power Agency in Utah. This facility is in process of replacing coal-powered generators with new hydrogen-burning generators supplied by Mitsubishi Hitachi Power Systems, in a contract announced on March 10th. Starting with a blend of 30% hydrogen and 70% natural gas in year 2025, the facility will be upgraded to burn 100% clean, renewable hydrogen by year 2045, allowing for carbon-free power generation at utility scale.

This latest contract may also open new collaboration between the Port of Los Angeles and Japanese hydrogen related companies to support the vision of a de-carbonized Port.

On March 5th, the Sister Ports of Nagoya and Los Angeles finalized an MOU to strengthen collaboration on best practices and future research on technology for port operations, including the prospect of decarbonizing the ports with hydrogen energy going forward. As the Governor of Aichi Prefecture & President of the Nagoya Port Authority,



Hideaki Ohmura, said: “We believe that the two ports’ collaboration will bring further developments in efficiency and environmental sustainability.”

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Consulate General of Japan, Los Angeles