

A Message from the Mayor of Izumo City Concerning COVID-19
Regarding the Consecutive Autumn Holiday Season

To the people of Izumo City,

In Shimane Prefecture, the number of COVID-19 infections reached record highs following the Obon holidays. We are still in a state where the rate of infection cannot be curbed, however, in spite of that, the number of new cases is decreasing. Izumo City has also seen a downward trend in the number of infections.

Building on the COVID-19 situations seen across the country and within the prefecture, Shimane Prefecture announced that the request that residents respect the restrictions on homecoming travel, travel between prefectures, and the limits on people in restaurants was lifted on the 14th of this month.

As we approach the Autumn holiday season, I expect an upswing in travel, shopping, dining-out, events, and other activities will cause a virtuous cycle that results in a positive impact on the local economy.

In order to revitalize Izumo's night life, "Izumo Night Marche" will be held in 4 locations around the city this autumn. Furthermore, I expect that the uptick in spending caused by the "Izumo Business Support Voucher Campaign" - starting in October - then the increase of visitors during Kamiarizuki (The Month of the Gods) in November will bring fresh prosperity to businesses in Izumo.

This said, the COVID-19 situation has not ended by any means.

While restrictions have been lifted, the people of Izumo are asked to continue to practice basic infection prevention measures such as avoiding "the 3 C's", keeping physical distance from other people, wearing a mask, ventilating spaces, etc. If you feel unwell, please take care to see a doctor as soon as possible and rest to avoid spreading the virus.

It is important that we, each and every one of us, continue to keep a high awareness of the situation. Without allowing your guard to drop, let us continue to practice infection prevention measures together.

I, with the people of Izumo City, am doing my best to strive towards an Izumo City that is abundant in smiles and vigor.

Thank you for your cooperation.

September 16, 2022

Mayor of Izumo City, Toshiyuki Iitsuka