Brilliant Administration Leadership in Disaster situation, Mayor of Goyang city Lee Jae-joon

COVID19 is obviously one of the biggest disaster the world is facing now, which we overcome with the community spirit mixed with administration policy and citizen’s participation.

For targeting and achieving the citizen’s happiness and sustainable goals, we are seeking the Local government’s role and Leadership pivotal. At this moment, we have one person who stands out. He is the Mayor of Goyang, Lee Jae Joon. He is getting a lot of title started with ‘the first’. This is from many efforts for responding COVID19 threat and booming up local economy. Following’s the cases Goyang implemented

1. Disaster Prevention Center and Drive-thru testing station

He established the first Disaster Prevention Center in Nation and has been discussing and implementing ideas. The best trial is the ‘Goyang Safe Car Test Center’. Since Goyang city opened the first ‘COVID19 drive-thru testing station in Goyang, Korea, many foreign media, following CNN, introduced the station to nations around the world including Germany, U.S., and UK, gaining heated attention and positive response.

2. Video Conference coronaviruses test

Goyang City also took the lead to be the first in the nation in adopting many other ideas, including video conference coronaviruses test(long – distance), operation of 5 ambulances, exclusively for COVID19.

3. Hand sanitizer stands

Goyang installed the ‘temporary hand sanitizer stands’ in 16 locations in total around major subway stations and plazas, the first case in the nation, to help citizens sanitize their hands, even on the streets or on the move. Mayor Lee Jae-joon said, “We can’t build complete preventative network, just with public
efforts. Participation from the citizens is also important for preventative measures.”

4. Job creation

In addition, Goyang city had diverted the fund allocated to job creation to organize an emergency task force to prevent COVID19 spread. Originally, the city raised KRW 10 billion fund to address the economic issue and promote employment of the economically vulnerable class. The task force team was created as part of the public work program, as stimulus measures to respond to COVID19 crisis. The team consists of about 200 people, in the unit of fever check team to check the body temperature and the disease prevention unit to conduct epidemic prevention activities in the socially vulnerable neighborhood. Especially, the fever check unit consists of professionals with experiences as nurse’s aides.

5. Temporarily Use of Disposable Goods

Goyang city would temporarily lift the ban on the use of disposable goods until the Virus Spread is over and contained. The temporary lift of ban on the use of disposable goods is a measure to combat the spread of the virus and citizen’s concern but it is still recommended to use reusable goods(tumblers, personal containers) for sustainable resources circulation.

6. Offer 50% cut

Goyang city became the first municipality in the nation to offer 50% cut in water and sewage utility bill for small business owners and farmers for 3 months. This is an effort to relieve the burden of small business owners and farmers, hit hard by COVID19 outbreak.

7. A list of Shincheonji Members, set for Full-range investigation

Goyang city dispatched 100 phones and public workers in a gym at Goyang
city hall to make a phone call 1~2 times a day from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. every
day to all 3,600 Shincheonji members and trainees to check symptoms of
viruses infection and recommend immediate self-quarantine for those showing
the symptoms. When the monitoring workers detect patients with symptoms,
firstly, the Epidemics Management Team recommends them to visit the target
medical institutions and secondly, they will get treatment and test with sample
swap at the target medical institutions.

8. Set to combat COVID19 and Boost Regional Economy

First of all, it established an emergency disease prevention unit with 2000
members from the pubic work program to hire experienced nurse’s aides for
body temperature check and the unemployed to conduct disease prevention
activities to boost the economy by addressing the issues of combat against the
virus spread and job creation at the same time.

Also for the small business owners, suffering from declining revenue, the city
government offers ▲ water & swage bill cut for the first time in the nation ▲
expands special guarantee (KRW 50 million) and lower interest rate ▲
expansion of Goyang Pay event for 10% additional accumulation (until March
end).

To join the efforts to fight against the difficulties in the region, it ▲ closes in-
house cafeteria at public buildings to divert consumers to stores in the regions
and ▲ runs flower market at Goyang City Hall and 3 county buildings.

9. Safe Book Rental Service

Libraries in Goyang city are frequently visited by many users, with 15,759
visitors every day and they check body temperature of the visitors and sanitize
all the books in the collection with book sanitizers to protect health of the
public. Hygiene of the facilities is also thoroughly managed, with internal
sanitization of all facilities and supplies at the libraries.
Meanwhile, the center is gaining attention with the safe book rental service for
the citizens who hesitate to visit the libraries due to concerns over
Coronaviruses.
10. Distributing relief Goods to those in Self-quarantine

Anyone who contacted the patients with coronaviruses infection has to stay in self-quarantine for 14 days, regardless of casual or close contact. The city government immediately executed the reserve fund to provide relief goods (rice, bottled water, side dishes, ramen, etc.) to those in self-quarantine with KRW 15 million budgets.

Starting from February 5, 50 public workers of the city have been delivering the relief goods box to those in self-quarantine at home. Articles including more information are enclosed. Please refer.

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