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Revised

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The City of Rochester supports local businesses

March 26, 2020 – Rochester, Minnesota – City of Rochester continues its efforts to support local businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. “This is a challenging time for all of us,” says Rochester Mayor Kim Norton, “the impact to our local small businesses is very tangible and very real.” Norton encourages Rochester residents to continue to frequent local businesses that remain open during the Stay at Home order whenever possible but recognizes that won’t be enough. “I am pleased we were able to quickly respond to the Chamber of Commerce’s suggestions on further steps to support our local businesses. The City continues to implement new practices during this time to ease the financial burden caused by COVID-19.”

Below are a variety of options that are now in effect:

NEW Options for deferment of liquor license renewal payments

The City of Rochester will allow deferral until November 13, 2020 of annual on-sale liquor license renewal fees—an expansion on previous deferral options. The City is considering additional measures to reduce the burden on businesses that have already paid renewal fees but have been unable to be open for business.

NEW Municipal parking ramps

Contract parkers affected by business closures or other COVID-19 related impacts may request a temporary suspension of their monthly contract parking for the month of April. Doing so will not affect your future contract eligibility. Refunds will be provided for those who have already paid for the month. Contact Reef Parking at rochesterparking@reefparking.com to initiate the process.

COVID-19 Emergency Economic Development Loans

The City of Rochester has allocated \$250,000 from the City’s Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund to the COVID-19 Emergency Loan Fund. The newly established fund provides assistance to small local businesses to help keep them operating, including helping to support their employees in times of loss of or declining business. Program information and applications are available at <https://www.rochestermn.gov/departments/emergency-management/covid-19-emergency-economic-development-and-stability-information>

On-street parking

The City of Rochester is extending through the end of April temporary changes suspending the enforcement of both residential permit-only parking zones and metered parking spaces.

The latest City news and information regarding COVID-19 can be found by visiting the [City webpage](#).

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NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC



EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

Stay at Home
Executive Order 20-20
Effective March 27 – April 10

City of Rochester
Declaration of Local Emergency
Issued March 17, 2020

Olmsted County
Public Health Emergency
Issued March 17, 2020

Minnesota Peacetime State of
Emergency EM-3453
Issued March 13, 2020

National Emergency
Concerning Novel Coronavirus
Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak
Issued March 13, 2020

LOCAL ACTIVATIONS

City of Rochester
Emergency Operations Plan

Joint Information Center (JIC)

City of Rochester Emergency
Operations Center (EOC)

EOC STRATEGY

Ensure Community Lifelines

EOC OBJECTIVES

Continuity of Operations

Timely Community and
Teammate Communication

Economic Stability

Community Stability

Healthcare System Support

*Lifelines enable the continuous
operation of critical government
and business functions and are
essential to human health and
safety or economic security.*

ROCHESTERMN.GOV/COVID19