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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### City of Rochester asks residents to stop congregating in parks

Fencing has been temporarily installed around Silver Lake Skate Park

April 1, 2020 – Rochester, Minnesota – The mild spring weather, along with the Governor’s “Stay at Home” executive order, has resulted in increased outdoor activity on Rochester sidewalks, trails, and in city parks. Despite the current Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations about social distancing, people are still gathering in groups and not observing six feet of distance between themselves and others.

The City of Rochester remains committed to slowing the spread of COVID-19 in our community and has therefore installed fencing around the Silver Lake Skate Park to deter groups of individuals from congregating there and further promoting the spread of COVID-19.

“We are specifically making a call out to our community’s youth to be champions for social distancing at this time,” said Rochester Police Chief James Franklin. “Limit unnecessary contact with others, and avoid contact with people who aren’t living in your own household – this includes your friends. You have an opportunity to be change-makers for all of us.”

As noted previously, tennis and pickleball courts have been padlocked; rims have been removed from basketball courts; and playgrounds and the skate park at Silver Lake have been signed as “closed.” All organized sports activities, including practices, have been canceled until further notice.

Trails remain open but you must maintain six feet of space between you and others on the trail. This includes when you pass another walker, runner, or biker. Do not walk with others who are not part of your immediate household, and do not use the trails if you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

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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.*

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