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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Rochester continues essential services during extended Stay at Home order and announces suspension of early summer events

May 1, 2020 – ROCHESTER, MINN. – In compliance with Governor Tim Walz’s Stay at Home extension, City of Rochester facilities will remain closed to the public through May 18, 2020. Essential city services will continue to be provided with teammates working remotely whenever possible.

As part of ongoing efforts to reduce the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the city also announced today its decision to suspend all programming and large-scale events in city facilities and on city grounds through July 8, 2020.

“Event organizers are working together to explore ways to bring engaging and creative virtual opportunities to community members in the short-term as well as how to re-introduce some of these postponed events later in the year,” said Steve Rymer, City Administrator.

The city continues to monitor public health conditions and will share further updates for events and activities scheduled after July 8, 2020 later this spring.

“The health and safety of our residents, city teammates, and community partners are paramount right now,” Rymer continued, extending his thanks to Rochester residents for the action they have been taking to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

Rochester Civic Music/Riverside Concerts

The following events have been postponed with dates to be announced in the future:

- June 17 - forWARD Concert (first of the season)
- June 22 and 23 - World Music Mini-Residency (first of the season)
- July 3 and 4 - World Music Mini-Residency (second of the season)

Mayo Civic Center

Mayo Civic Center will continue to follow all governor’s recommendations for group gatherings. Detailed information on scheduled events can be found on the [Mayo Civic Center website](#).

Parks and Recreation

All sports leagues, tournaments, programming, and activities have been suspended until further notice.

Fourth of July

All Fourth of July celebrations, including parades, concerts, and fireworks have been canceled.

City Administration, along with Mayor Kim Norton and the City Council, continue to remind Rochester residents of the importance of social distancing to reduce the spread of this virus.

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC



EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

Stay at Home
Executive Order 20-20
Effective until May 18

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

“The more we stay at home and avoid contact with others, the sooner we can flatten the curve of COVID-19 and begin to explore when we can resume planned activities and events for later in the summer or in the fall,” said Rymer.

When city facilities reopen, social distancing guidelines will be in place for each site per guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Minnesota Department of Health. “As our plans for reopening evolve, we are keeping the health and safety of our teammates and our residents at the forefront of our decision-making,” Rymer explained. “Community members can expect to see changes in how we conduct business going forward,” citing that social distancing guidelines and masks will become the norm for the foreseeable future.

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