



# CITY OF OAK PARK

## OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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Erik Tungate

## **Public Service Announcement: City Taking Extra Steps to Protect Staff and Residents**

**MARCH 30, 2020**

In response to the number of confirmed cases the City of Oak Park was provided this morning (117 as of Sunday, March 29 at 5:00pm), the City wants residents and business owners to know that we are making extra efforts and taking tremendous precautions when it comes to protecting the health and safety of everyone in our community. Some of the precautions we have taken include:

- Declaring a local emergency. This declaration will give the City access to federal and state emergency funds should they become available.
- Closing City Hall, the Community Center, and the Library to the public through at least Monday, April 13.
- Cancelling or postponing all activities, events, meetings, classes, and rentals affiliated with the City through at least Monday, April 13.

“We are taking this very seriously and will use every resource we have at our disposal to make sure we are protecting our residents,” says Oak Park City Manager Erik Tungate. “As the number of confirmed cases is constantly changing and will undoubtedly grow, I am asking all residents and business owners to recommit themselves to following the guidelines that have been laid out. Oak Park has a higher density of residents than much of the rest of Oakland County, so these numbers are expected. This situation is challenging, but we will overcome this if we follow the guidelines.”

Residents should know that the City’s essential functions such as those that fall within the Public Safety and Public Works Departments will continue to be fully operational. Further, both of these Departments are taking extra measures to protect themselves and the public as they continue their operations.

“The Department of Public Safety remains 100% committed to the safety and well-being of the community,” Director of Public Safety Steve Cooper says. “All of our staff are equipped with the necessary Personal Protective Equipment to safely do our jobs. We will continue to provide the excellent services that our residents expect and are accustomed to. We understand that these are unusual and stressful times for all, and we are committed to getting through them together.”

We want to remind everyone to follow the Executive Orders declared by Governor Gretchen Whitmer, especially [Executive Order 2020-21](#), which temporarily requires the suspension of all travel and activities not deemed necessary to sustain or protect life. If we are truly going to make a difference in slowing the spread of COVID-19 and flattening the curve, we must follow these orders. We encourage our residents to take these orders very seriously, as doing so will help ease the pressure on frontline medical professionals and save human lives.

As this is a rapidly-evolving situation, with critical updates happening daily or even hourly, we encourage our residents to stay tuned to the City's social media pages and website for the most pertinent and accurate local coverage.

For more information, and to access the City's *COVID-19 Coronavirus Information Toolkit*, please visit the City's dedicated COVID-19 webpage, found at: [www.bit.ly/OPCoronavirus](http://www.bit.ly/OPCoronavirus)

For Oakland County's map of COVID-19 cases by zip code, visit this link: [www.bit.ly/OakGovCOVIDMap](http://www.bit.ly/OakGovCOVIDMap)

**Together, we can stop the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus.**