

CITY OF OAK PARK

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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Public Service Announcement: "Stay Home" Extension, New Guidelines, and More

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With the signing of Executive Order 2020-59, Governor Gretchen Whitmer has extended Michigan's original "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order through Friday, May 15, 2020 at 11:59pm. This means that non-essential travel and activities will continue to be prohibited during this time. This new order also imposes more stringent guidelines for wearing face masks in enclosed public spaces, while also relaxing some guidelines for outdoor recreation activities such as golfing and boating. Further, it allows businesses that do no supply essential goods and services to reopen for curbside pickup and delivery.

Yet another extension of the stay-at-home order tells us that social distancing, self-quarantining, and limiting travel continues to work for us. We are slowing the spread of the COVID-19 virus, flattening the curve, and undoubtedly saving lives. All of us must continue to practice these measures to ensure the health and safety of the general public.

As such, the City of Oak Park will continue to keep City buildings closed to the public for as long as the "Stay Home" order is in place. This means that all in-person activities, events, classes, and rentals affiliated with the City will be postponed or cancelled during this time, including Board and Commission meetings. We continue to urge residents to utilize our online transaction options or the City's dropbox for all payments.

While City administrators are working remotely on contingency plans for reopening City buildings, it is important to note the outstanding work each and every department has been doing during this stressful and unprecedented crisis. Department directors have been leading the charge on maintaining efficient and effective services, while staff members are working extremely hard despite having to adjust to new norms. Throughout this situation, Oak Park employees have maintained a superior level of class and professionalism.

As has been stated before, this COVID-19 crisis is a rapidly-evolving situation. We encourage our residents to continue to stay tuned to the City's social media pages and <u>website</u> for updates.

Together, we can continue to slow the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus.