

CITY OF RACINE

PROCLAMATION: COVID-19 EMERGENCY DECLARATION

Whereas, the United States of America and the State of Wisconsin have been affected by the worldwide pandemic of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), which is a dangerous respiratory illness that can spread from person to person; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic and its prevalence in the southeastern Wisconsin region and throughout the United States constitutes a public health emergency; and

Whereas, pursuant to Wisconsin Statute section 323.11, the governing body of any local unit of government may declare, by ordinance or resolution, an emergency existing within the local unit of government whenever conditions arise by reason of a riot or civil commotion, a disaster, or an imminent threat of a disaster, that impairs transportation, food or fuel supplies, medical care, fire, health or police protection, or other critical systems of the local unit of government, with such period of the emergency being limited to the time during which the emergency conditions exist or are likely to exist; and

Whereas, pursuant to Wisconsin Statute section 323.14(4)(a), the emergency powers of the governing body of a local unit of government include the general authority to order, by ordinance or resolution, whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within the local unit of government in the emergency; and

Whereas, pursuant to Racine Ordinance section 34-1, the Common Council of the City of Racine has recognized and adopted the power set forth in Wisconsin Statutes sections 323.11 and 323.14(4); and

Whereas, pursuant to Racine Ordinance section 34-1(c) if, because of emergency conditions, the Common Council is unable to meet with promptness, the Mayor, shall exercise by proclamation all of the powers conferred upon the Common Council that, within his discretion, appear necessary and expedient for the purposes set forth in to Racine Ordinance section 34-1; and

Whereas, the Common Council of the City of Racine has been unable to meet due to the escalation of the COVID-19 pandemic;

Now therefore, as Mayor of the City of Racine, I do declare and proclaim as follows:

There now exists a public health emergency as contemplated by in Wisconsin Statutes sections 323.11 and 323.14(4) and Racine Ordinance section 34-1.

During the period of this public health emergency, as the Mayor of the City of Racine, I shall undertake any actions, and direct any activities of any City of Racine employee, excepting the employees of the Racine Municipal Court, as are necessary and expedient to respond to, and during the pendency of, the existing public health emergency.

Without unreasonable delay, I shall inform the Common Council by electronic communication of all actions taken in furtherance of this emergency declaration and such actions shall be formally reported to the Common Council at its next regularly-occurring meeting.

The Common Council of the City of Racine shall not meet again until no earlier than Monday April 20, 2020, unless a special meeting is called by me pursuant to Wisconsin Statute section 62.11 and Racine Ordinance section 2-63; further no committee, commission, board, or authority of the City of Racine shall meet between the effective date of this order and no earlier than April 20, 2020.

This declaration of emergency shall expire at 11:59 PM, April 20, 2020, unless extended or otherwise modified by me or by the Common Council of the City of Racine.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed or interpreted to impair or abridge the duties, power, and authority of the Public Health Administrator to perform her duties as set forth in Wisconsin law or Racine ordinance.