

Essential City Operations and Long-term Planning Continues as Stay-at-Home Order is Extended through April

News that the statewide stay-at-home order was extended through April 30 was not unexpected, but that did not make it any easier to hear. This order will continue to have financial, social and emotional impacts on our residents and our business community. As Mayor Chirico states in today's video message to the community, however, each of us must do our part to slow the spread of COVID-19. Residents are urged to stay home unless it is essential to leave and to practice social distancing if going out is necessary.

For the past two weeks, City staff have worked diligently to implement our emergency plans to ensure that critical city operations can continue during the COVID-19 response. Our police, fire and emergency medical services as well as the maintenance of our water and electric utilities have continued without pause. Staff in other city departments have transitioned to split shifts and teleworking and will continue to work through the extended stay-at-home order to serve our residents.

Knowing that the extension of the statewide stay-at-home order was a possibility, City leaders have continued planning to address additional needs in the event of a prolonged response to the COVID-19 crisis.

Agreement with North Central College

This week, Mayor Chirico signed an agreement with North Central College to use one of the college's residence halls to house first responders who may need to self-isolate or self-quarantine because of an exposure. Our police officers and firefighter/paramedics are at increased risk of being exposed to the virus due to their continued work with the public, and this agreement gives them comfortable accommodations without putting their families at risk, as well. Read more about this agreement here.

April 7, 2020 City Council Meeting

City staff has also been working on a virtual solution for next week's City Council meeting in accordance with the Governor's executive order suspending certain portions of the Open Meetings Act. The meeting will be held virtually at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, using Zoom and will be live-streamed on WCNC (Ch. 6 - WOW, Ch. 10 - Comcast, Ch. 99 - AT&T) or online at (https://naperville.legistar.com). Residents will also have the ability to weigh in on agenda items remotely by calling in or using the City's online speaker signup system (www.naperville.il.us/speakersignup). Additional details for participating in this meeting will be released on Friday, April 3.

Residents are encouraged to visit the City of Naperville's <u>COVID-19 Resources webpage</u> regularly for City-specific information and updates related to Naperville's COVID-19 response.