

VILLAGE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

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Francis X. Murray, Mayor

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Kathleen Baxley, *Deputy Mayor*

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Nancy Howard, *Trustee*

Kathleen Murray, *Administrator*

March 16, 2020

Dear Residents,

The Village of Rockville Centre has been in regular contact with local and state officials, as well as Health Department officials regarding the Coronavirus, known as COVID-19, to provide a coordinated response for our Village. We are monitoring the situation closely and conferring with these experts as the ongoing situation warrants.

With that in mind and out of an abundance of caution, I am declaring a state of emergency in the Village of Rockville Centre effective immediately. This declaration will allow the Village to more efficiently respond to the situation and potentially be reimbursed for costs associated with the pandemic.

With this in mind, please note the following:

- All non-essential Village offices and facilities including Village Hall, the Sandel Senior Center, John A. Anderson Recreation Center, the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center are closed for the next two weeks beginning March 16th. We will continue to monitor the situation and listen to public health officials before deciding when to reopen.

We will continue to have staff available for essential services including our Sanitation, Electric, Water, Sewage, Fire Department, and Police Department. All other employees will be working remotely during this time. For further information from a specific department, please call (516) 678-9300 to be directed. We ask residents to conduct Village business online when possible. Electric and water payments can be paid online at www.rvcny.gov. Payments can also be mailed or placed in the drop box outside Village Hall at 1 College Place, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11570-4116.

- Village court is closed for one month beginning on March 16th. New summonses with updated hearing dates will be sent out in the coming weeks. Parking violations can be paid online at www.rvcny.gov, as well as be mailed or placed in the drop box outside Village Hall at 1 College Place, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11570-4116.

- Parking enforcement for the next two weeks is suspended in the Village of Rockville Centre. This is not to encourage social gathering, but help patrons to avoid touching meters and further spreading germs. Drivers are still not permitted to park illegally (i.e. blocking fire hydrants, off corners, etc.) and will be ticketed accordingly.
- We are sensitive to the impact these circumstances are having on our local economy, but we only have one opportunity to do this right and will not tolerate unnecessary risks to the health of our residents. By order of Governor Cuomo, all movie theaters and gyms will close until further notice effective Monday, March 16th at 8 p.m. In addition, all bars and dine-in restaurants will close, but take-out service is still permitted. As you know, the Village of Rockville Centre is home to some of the best restaurants, bars, and stores in New York. Throughout this time, many of our businesses are making changes on how to best serve our residents. From curb-side pick-up to new delivery options, our local establishments are hoping to serve our residents in the safest way possible.
- By order of Nassau County Executive Laura Curran, in conjunction with Governor Andrew Cuomo, all private and public schools K-12 and pre-schools will be closed for the next two weeks to continue in the efforts of social distancing. Provisions will be made for students in lunch programs. Stay informed on the district website at www.rvcschools.org. We ask all students to adhere to the social distancing and not convene together in social gatherings.

Again, these measures are being taken in an abundance of caution and are aimed at slowing the rate of transmission. We need every resident and business to be a part of the solution as we work to protect our community and mitigate the risk of spreading this virus.

Coronavirus spreads through contact with respiratory droplets caused by coughing and sneezing. You should be using the same prevention methods as you would to avoid a common cold or the flu.

The best ways to protect yourself include:

- If you are ill, stay home and get better
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with sick people
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or your elbow
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a household cleaning spray or wipe.

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms of respiratory illness, such as cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider immediately. They might want to ask you questions first over the phone. Steps taken at the front door of the medical

system — at primary care practices, urgent care clinics, and doctor's offices — can reduce the spread of the virus.

We ask residents to prepare and follow the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the New York State Department of Health and the Nassau County Health Department.

We will continue to review the available facts and information provided by the experts and authorities, establish precautions, and take appropriate action to ensure the safety of all involved. Please log onto the Village website at www.rvcny.gov and our social media pages for updates.

We are confident that as a community, we will weather these challenging times together as we always do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis X. Murray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Francis X. Murray
Mayor
Village of Rockville Centre