



Office of the Mayor

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To: Madison Common Council

From: Mayor Rhodes-Conway

March 23, 2020

I am today issuing an Emergency Proclamation. While the State and other governmental bodies have issued emergency declarations prior to this time, I was satisfied that the immediate health crisis was well managed through the public health orders issued by the Director of Public Health for Madison and Dane County.

It has now become clear that the crisis threatens the livelihood of Madison's residents and businesses in ways beyond the authority of the Director of Public Health. This Proclamation is aimed directly at providing relief to them.

City staff and officials have received numerous requests to modify timelines or deadlines from individuals, non-profits and businesses in the City. This Proclamation is aimed at answering those requests. It allows the temporary modification, suspension or adoption of city policies, resolutions or ordinances to provide relief to the City's residents, non-profits and businesses.

The types of matters I contemplate being considered are: extensions of time for issuing or paying for permits or licenses, extensions of time in City contracts, waiving late fees, waiving payment of fees to a time certain after the emergency is over, extending time to apply for certain permits or licenses, requiring return of deposits for cancelled events, and waiving competition for City contracts if related to COVID. These are illustrative examples, not a complete listing. We are going to use every tool we can to help residents and impacted businesses in Madison.

Under this Proclamation, the Mayor is empowered to make those modifications. Any changes in legislation adopted by the Common Council will be placed before the Council for consideration at its next regular meeting. The Council will have the authority to affirm, amend, or rescind any actions I take under this declaration that relate to legislative matters.

I do not issue this Proclamation lightly. I will work with the Common Council and the City's residents, non-profits and businesses to assist Madison in this unprecedented crisis. Working together, we can make a difference.