

TO THE RESIDENTS OF TRENTON:

As you are keenly aware, the last several weeks have been anything but “normal”. The COVID-19 virus has been center stage at the federal, state, and local levels. By now, I think we all anticipate our present circumstances will continue into the foreseeable future.

It is critically important that over the next several weeks, we all work to help our neighbors. If you know a senior citizen, or someone who lives alone (regardless of age), please reach out and check in on them. Knock on doors, help our seniors and those among us who are the most impacted by this virus, so that they can receive the essentials that they need. If you are a senior citizen or a person who is in need of support, feel free to contact Trenton City Hall and we will make it a point to reach out to you on regular intervals and assist you if needed. We will get through this together, if we work together with one another.

On Sunday, March 15th the Governor announced all restaurants and bars in Illinois will be closed through March 30th. Drive-through, curbside pick-up, and delivery options are still available so our local businesses can continue to serve the public. The Governor has left enforcement of his Executive Order to local authorities. As a result, I have instructed Chief Joellenbeck to be understanding, but firm as it relates the enforcement of the Executive Order put forth by Governor Pritzker.

Trenton’s city operations will continue to function in the normal course of operation. Trenton City Hall will be open from 8:30a.m to 5:00p.m weekdays, Monday through Friday. If you have business with the City, I would encourage you to use the two drop boxes at Trenton City Hall. One drop box is located by the front door, while the other drop box is located on the west side of the Trenton City Hall building. Additionally, all City of Trenton public meetings have been cancelled until further notice at my direction.

My administration and city staff are working with our local businesses to help them establish safe, and sensible curb-side food pick-up areas to continue to serve Trenton residents. These businesses are owned by our neighbors, our friends, and they employ our citizens and loved ones. I would ask our residents to support all of our local businesses during this difficult time.

Considering the economic impact the Governor’s Executive Order will have on the state and each municipality, it is imperative that we are prudent with taxpayer funds at this time and throughout this process. During this time of economic uncertainty, the City of Trenton, much like your households, must take stringent fiscal action. At my direction, Trenton’s City Administrator has been directed to work with City department managers to curtail all but essential purchases. These measures are being put in place to make sure Trenton residents continue to receive the services that they have come to expect. Furthermore, it is incumbent on me to protect the livelihoods and families of everyone who works for the City of Trenton.

In this time of upheaval and uncertainty, the City of Trenton is here to help. As Mayor, while we cannot do everything, we can bring to bear what resources we have, or reach out to those who have resources who can assist us. As in all challenging situations, we will get through this by working together, respecting lawful orders, and most importantly through prayer.

In a civilized society, we must always do everything in our power to protect human life. At the very least, we owe it to the generations that came before us, that loved us, fought and died for us, taught us, raised us, and offered their wisdom and guidance to each one of us. If we cannot sacrifice for them as they have for us, then we will demonstrate that we did not learn anything from their example.

Kyle R. Jones
Mayor
City of Trenton