Dear Cleveland Residents,

Our city, at last, is beginning to slowly and steadily open up its private and public operations after months of an ordered emergency lockdown.

An official call for concern is still in place, but we are seeing signs of new life as some restrictions on retail operations are easing, while at the same time strongly urging various safeguards.

So far, these safeguards have helped to slow the spread of Covid-19.

City Council proudly recognizes all those who are taking this public health emergency seriously and are practicing safe distancing from one another and wearing masks in public places.

The masks are very important for slowing this deadly pandemic and now that Governor Mike DeWine has ordered face coverings be worn in public places in Cuyahoga and other counties hit hardest by Covid-19 (see page 2), we can hope to see some promising signs toward slowing this aggressive virus.

This is a vital time for us as the warm weather has been drawing more and more people outdoors, resulting in a possible relaxation of the simple acts of precaution. But remember, these simple acts have had a significant impact in the fight against this world-wide pandemic. So we are urging citizens to stay vigilant under this ongoing emergency and to help each other from spreading this dangerous virus.

But the work of City Council continues. Council recently approved a resolution declaring racism as a public health crisis and setting up a working committee of experts to study and pursue policies and strategies to bring about racial equity.

The resolution, drafted by council earlier this year, comes at a time when the nation sees a white police officer in Minneapolis take the life of a black man by kneeling on his neck, cutting off his breathing.

It also comes at a time when the Covid-19 virus is killing blacks and minorities at a higher rate than whites, revealing inequities in health care and healthy environments.

Finally, it comes at a time when minorities have become a solid majority in growing unemployment lines.

In Cleveland and in cities across the nation, racism is systemic and we, as citizens grounded in principles of morality and justice, must come together to put an end to this glaring division.

We cannot tolerate police misconduct; we cannot tolerate people suffering in unsafe living conditions; we can not tolerate all citizens from having access to fresh food and clean air; we cannot tolerate any form of racial oppression.

We are living in a dangerous time with a deadly virus. And all of us, regardless of race or creed, must rely on each other to stay safe and healthy. Please do not hesitate to call your council representative with questions, comments or concerns (see listing on page 4). City Council has been meeting electronically for public hearings and legislative sessions (see page 3 for details).

And though Covid-19 has limited the hours at City Hall, be assured that we are still working for you around the clock.

Stay safe, stay healthy.

Regards,

Members of Cleveland City Council

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The response rate in Cleveland for the 2020 Census is still lagging behind the state and nation considerably; we have a long way to go to make sure that everyone in our community is counted.

The Census will begin to send out self-response questionnaires online at my2020census.gov. The questionnaire will take about 10 minutes to complete.

You have the option of completing the questionnaire by phone. To begin, call 844-330-2020.

The Census Bureau began mailing paper questionnaires in mid-April to homes that had not yet responded. If you have not already responded, please complete and mail back your form.
**Facing Eviction? There’s Help**

Cleveland families who are facing eviction and would like to find out if they qualify for free legal assistance can contact Right to Counsel – Cleveland (RTC-C). Call 216-687-1900, visit www.FreeEvictionHelp.org, or call 2-1-1 HelpLink, 24/7. All conversations are free and confidential.

**CPL Meal Distribution Site for Children and Families**

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank will distribute meals every Thursday now through August 7. Each child will receive enough food for five meals. Food Bank staff will also help adults apply for food assistance and other critical benefits.

**In Cleveland and Cuyahoga County**

With Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations rising in Ohio — elected officials in some areas have instituted requirements that everyone must wear masks. Governor Mike DeWine recently mandated face coverings in public in all counties that are designated Red Alert Level 3 or Purple Alert Level 4 Public Health Emergency. To find out more go to: https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home. Ohioans can also call 1-833-427-5634 to ask questions from 9 am to 8 pm every day, including weekends.

Cuyahoga County, along with six other Ohio counties are designated Red Alert Level 3 which indicates a very high risk of exposure and spread. Those living in or visiting counties designated as Red Alert Level 3 or Purple Alert Level 4 are required to wear a face covering:

- In any indoor location that is not a residence;
- When outdoors and unable to consistently maintain a distance of six feet or more from individuals who are not members of their household; or
- While waiting for, riding, driving, or operating public transportation, a taxi, a private car service, or a ride-sharing vehicle.

The governor’s order does not apply to children under 10 or any other minor who cannot safely wear a face covering. People who violate the orders can be punished with a misdemeanant charge.

When a county improves and moves out of the red, the governor’s order will be lifted. However, Mayor Frank G. Jackson has issued an order requiring face coverings for everyone two and older, except for medical issues. Typically, cities and counties must follow state mandates but can make them stricter. Penalties for those who don’t follow the face covering mandate are under discussion. The mayor’s order includes:

- Mandatory masks for all individuals out in public or in public spaces including businesses, restaurants etc.
- Maximum capacity at any bar, restaurant, entertainment venue cannot exceed 50% of allowable capacity and must comply with social distancing standards.
- Mass Gathering Orders are still in effect. If incidents of more than 10 persons are gathered not wearing masks, enforcement actions will be taken.
- If an establishment has an employee or a patron, who has tested positive for Covid-19, then the establishment must be sanitized to the standards of the Cleveland Health Department, failure to demonstrate such sanitation will result in the facility being shut down.

**NORTHEAST OHIO RENT HELP**

IF YOU'RE HAVING TROUBLE MAKING YOUR RENT PAYMENTS DUE TO COVID-19, WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU. 833-377-RENT (7368) NEORENTHelp.ORG

**NORESTE DE OHIO ASISTENCIA DE ALQUILER**

SI TIENE PROBLEMAS PARA PAGAR SU ALQUILER DUE A COVID-19, PODRÍAMOS AYUDARLO. 833-377-RENT (7368) NEORENTHelp.ORG

**Cleveland Department of Public Health**

COVID-19 FACT SHEET

HOW CAN I PREVENT FROM GETTING COVID-19?

There are steps you can take to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Stay home unless you must leave, for essential reasons, especially if you are sick;
- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water. If that is not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol;
- Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing;
- Avoid being within 6 feet of those outside of your household;
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects;
- Wear face-coverings (home sewn masks, handkerchiefs, bandanas) is recommended by the CDC and the Ohio Department of Health.
Cleveland Care Calls is an automated telephone reassurance system being offered to Cleveland Seniors 60 and over or adults 18-59 with a disability by the Department of Aging and Public Safety. Through this computerized system, the individual receives a call, on the days they request, Monday through Friday, to check on their well-being. They can select a time to receive the call between 7 AM - 11 AM. If the individual does not respond to his/her call:

- System will make several additional attempts in a thirty (30) minute period.

- If no response within the thirty minute period, the Department of Aging will then contact any person that the senior has designated as an emergency contact.

- If the individual or any of his/her contacts cannot be reached, the Department of Public Safety may be asked to make a home check on the individual in question.

To sign up and for more information, please contact the Cleveland Care Calls Project Director 216-664-6316 or 216-664-2833.

Coronavirus Infection Data Shows Glaring Racial Disparity

Whether in big cities or little towns, Black and Latino communities across the United States are disproportionately affected by the coronavirus, becoming three times as likely to be infected as white residents in their communities. That glaring disparity is backed by data recently released by the federal government. It also shows that blacks and Latinos are twice as likely to die from the virus as white people.

Some public health experts say the disparity is due in part to underlying health problems among these minorities – health problems largely due to systemic racism in the United States. The new federal data, reported by the New York Times, shows that the racial disparity spanned the entire nation throughout urban, suburban and rural areas and across all age groups.

To help you answer the census, the U.S. Census Bureau provides translated web pages and guides in 59 non-English languages, including American Sign Language, as well as guides in braille and large print.

2020census.gov/en/languages.html

Para ayudarle a responder al formulario del censo, la Oficina del Censo de los EE.UU. proporciona guías traducidas y páginas de internet traducidas a 59 idiomas además del inglés, incluyendo el lenguaje de señas americano, así como guías en braille y en letra grande.

2020census.gov/en/languages.html

Business News
City of Cleveland Offering Assistance for Businesses Affected By Pandemic

The City of Cleveland has worked with Cuyahoga County, the Greater Cleveland Partnership, Downtown Cleveland Alliance (DCA) and the Cleveland Foundation to provide assistance to develop a one-stop application. For more information about this and other financial help for impacted businesses go to www.makeitincleveland.org/covid-19 or call 216-452-9714.

Watch Council Meetings Online
In spite of these trying times, the work of Cleveland City Council continues. Council has been meeting electronically with virtual public hearings and legislative sessions. Go to www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/calendar to find listings of upcoming committee meetings.

WATCH MEETINGS VIA:
(LIVE & RECORDED)
www.youtube.com/user/ClevelandCityCouncil

(LIVE)
www.tv20cleveland.com/watch-now/
Have You Responded to the 2020 Census?

The Census is critical to funding many programs including those that help respond to public health emergencies like COVID-19. Complete the census online at 2020census.gov, via phone at 844-330-2020 or by mail. #CountCLE2020