

RESOLUTION

**By Cunningham, Reich, Gordon, Fletcher, Ellison,
Warsame, Goodman, Jenkins, Cano, Bender, Schroeder, and Johnson**

Expressing the Council's policy priorities during the declared emergency and requesting reports from the Mayor.

Whereas, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 12.29, and Minneapolis Code of Ordinances, Section 128.50, the Mayor proclaimed a Declaration of Local Public Health Emergency (Declaration) on Monday, March 16, 2020, resulting from the imminent health conditions and potential threat caused by the presence of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19); and

Whereas, as provided under Minneapolis Code of Ordinances, Section 128.50, the City Council did convene on Thursday, March 19, 2020, at 1:30 p.m., which was within the required seventy-two (72) hours of the Mayor's Declaration, and by formal action at that time did ratify the Local Public Health Emergency and authorize its extension to run coterminous with the declared state of peacetime emergency for the State of Minnesota, as proclaimed by Governor Walz pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-04; and

Whereas, the Mayor's Declaration established a Policy Group, which includes the President and the Vice-President of City Council, to be responsible for coordinating, supporting, advising, and assisting in communicating and discharging duties pertaining to the Local Public Health Emergency, creating a policy-level partnership in addressing this community emergency; and

Whereas, the Finance and Property Services Department estimates the potential for millions of dollars in lost revenue to the City due to the impacts of COVID-19 while the need for public support from all levels of government continues to increase; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City Council asserts its legislative and primary policy-making authority, pursuant to State law and the City Charter, over City operations, services, and activities which are not connected to the Local Public Health Emergency and COVID-19 pandemic, including the protection of civil liberties for all residents of the City of Minneapolis.

That the City Council hereby expresses its support in prioritizing the health and well-being of all residents, and most especially those residents who are most vulnerable to health impacts from COVID-19, and hereby expresses its policy intent to evaluate any order authorizing involuntary restrictions on civil liberties for consistency with evidence-based public health practices to support civil liberties while accomplishing public health, safety, and welfare objectives.

That the Mayor is hereby requested to center race equity in all aspects of the City's COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts, and to analyze the implications of actions taken during this Local Public Health Emergency through a Racial Equity Impact Analysis.

That the Mayor is hereby requested to consider the following actions and to submit his recommendations to the City Council for its consideration pursuant to the authority assumed through the Declaration:

1. Prioritization of culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach materials for non-English speaking residents and businesses;
2. Policy actions within the City's authority to support housing stability, including a moratorium on evictions and continued water and utility access;
3. Local regulatory actions that support small businesses and their workers; and
4. Prioritization of City funds for gaps left in federal, state, county, and philanthropic efforts that focus on health supports for populations without access to public hygiene, such as handwashing stations, and support for residents or businesses most vulnerable to economic impacts or who are not covered by other partners.

That the Mayor consider actions that emphasizes the following principles:

1. Support and encourage City staff in complying with current public health guidelines that limit the spread of COVID-19;
2. Encourage City staff to care for themselves or family members who are or who may be ill;
3. Recognize the additional responsibilities of our first responders and other critical employees that are not able to work remotely because the nature of their work; and
4. Provide options for City staff and contractors to take days off to meet their individual situations, especially in the case of hourly, new, and temporary workers.

That the Mayor follow the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) priority guidelines established by the Minneapolis Health Department after community spread is confirmed and present in the city and follow any guideline change(s) based on the virus impact or City policy requirements. Guidelines include:

1. The use of scientific guidelines and epidemiological practice to guide PPE allocation;
2. Required inclusion of other means of reducing exposure and limiting risk when PPE is requested and for planned use;
3. The use of PPE to be triaged from lowest restrictive to highest;
4. In addition to limiting person to person transmission, PPE should support overall health care capacity; and
5. Masks should be available to workers who may be exposed to contagious individuals due to nature of their work.

That the City Council hereby requests the Mayor's Office to provide reports at each regular meeting of the full City Council on all actions taken pursuant to the Declaration, including but not limited to:

1. Expenditures incurred by department specifically tied to the Declaration and resulting emergency operations and activities;
2. New contracts and agreements authorized, or amendments to existing contracts and agreements, including information on the goods or services received and corresponding amounts;
3. New permanent and temporary or short-term positions added to the City's number of personnel positions, or vacant positions that may be filled, to address the public health emergency and the budgetary implications of the same, as well as the number of temporary staffing reassignments that may be made to address the requirements under the Declaration; and
4. A list detailing the enforcement of current criminal and civil laws and regulations and how those are being prioritized to address public health, safety, and welfare.

Be It Further Resolved that the City Council intends to review and consider the extension of the Declared Local Public Health Emergency on a monthly basis in response to recommendations from the Mayor's Office, City Departments, and Hennepin County, as well information provided in the reports herein set forth and requested by the City Council.