



STATE OF THE CITY - April 3, 2020

During this time, we as a community are faced with concern, uncertainty and a challenge unlike any other we have ever faced. But there is hope and certainty in what we can do to meet the challenge. All of us can do our part by simply STAYING HOME, WASHING OUR HANDS and PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING. These measures are proven and everyone has the capability and resources to take these basic steps.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

- Your city government is in great shape and we are confident that we will continue to meet the essential needs of our citizens including public safety, water and sewer and sanitation services.
- As an employer we are practicing the recommended guidelines to ensure the safety and health of our employees including establishing remote work sites and rotating employees in the office.
- Constantly evaluating on how we can increase electronic communication, billing and potential new on-line services.
- Our finances are strong due to conservative and excellent fiscal management that includes several millions in reserve accounts for situations like this.
- Additionally, to boost our reserves we have paused most major capital projects and equipment that is not grant funded or funded with donations.
- Also, we are evaluating closely all staff vacancies and eliminated all travel and training.
- Monitoring financial assistance that maybe available from federal and state agencies.
- We will continue to assist financially Hot Meals to provide nutrition for our community.
- We are communicating with Two Rivers Health Department and local hospitals frequently to assess the situation and seek their input on how we can assist.
- Based on constantly adjusting non-essential city services and related operations based on recommendations, stages of the virus and financial impacts.
- Appointed City Physician to educate and guide staff as appropriate.

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

- Reach out to those you know who are isolated or may be at high risk. Ask how they are doing and check in with them regularly.
- Start a group text with your neighbors and friends to keep up on one another's well being and mental health.
- If available, donate to area hospitals Level 3 or surgery masks.
- Prepare for fraud attempts to be on the rise and for residents to be cautious.
- Continue to utilize the covid-19@kearneygov.org for questions related to the coronavirus.
- Check the City's Home Page and Facebook to keep updated.
- Follow the rules and be patient and kind as we face this challenge.