



City of Mount Rainier
One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, MD 20712
Phone: (301) 985-6585 Fax: (301) 985-6595

March 18, 2020

COVID-19- STATE OF EMERGENCY

Mount Rainier, Maryland's Mayor and Council has declared a state of emergency due to the national, state, county, and local governments' declaration of a State of Emergency amid the coronavirus outbreak.

In a meeting, March 17, 2020, Mayor and Council determined that the declaration would allow the City access to state and federal resources if needed to fight the outbreak of the disease, known as COVID-19.

"Given the shortages of vital medical supplies, costs are higher than ever. These increased costs could have potentially catastrophic effects on the City's budget and other resources. Therefore, state and federal resources will help alleviate or eliminate these effects entirely.

At least twelve (12) cases of the coronavirus have been reported in Prince George's County, although not in Mount Rainier at the time of this writing. Even more, cases have been reported in Maryland, and state officials are completing testing of other people who have come in contact with the virus.

Governor Larry Hogan, and County Executive Angela Alsobrooks has declared a state of emergency for Maryland and Prince George's County and President Trump has declared a national state of emergency because of the outbreak of Covid-19.

Mayor and Council met with the Interim City Manager, and the community via the internet (virtual conference call). The Interim City Manager has been directed to meet with all department heads and draft plans to prevent the spread of the disease.

The City has issued at least one notice to the public regarding staff teleworking, providing essential services, partial closing of government buildings, meeting spaces, and other precautions to make sure that residents and employees are safe.

Residents with concerns, in need of food, and other essential services should first reach out to City Hall (301-985-6565),

Michel Rosario (301-955-6322), and then to their Ward councilmembers. A list of services is being developed to assist with providing those essentials.

Mayor and Council ask that all the citizens of Mount Rainier take this Pandemic seriously and do everything in their power to prevent its spread. Our elderly and immune-compromised family members, neighbors, and loved ones are depending on us. Call and check in on them. Together we will get through this while keeping our community safe while providing essential services.

As the situation continues to evolve, the City will update the public as necessary. Please visit the City's website (www.mountrainiermd.org), and follow the City's social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram) for the latest and most up-to-date City news and information.

Misinformation about COVID-19 can create fear and hostility that hurts people and makes it harder to keep everyone healthy. Share accurate information from the CDC, state or county health departments. For the latest and most accurate information about the evolving situation, visit the CDC, state and county health departments websites;

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>
- Maryland Department of Health: <https://health.maryland.gov/pages/home.aspx>
- Prince George's County Department of Health:
<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1588/Health-Services>

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Prince George's County Health Department Coronavirus Hotline at (301)883-6627 during 8:00am – 8:00pm to receive updated information about the coronavirus disease.



Latasha C. Gatling
Interim City Manager