

From: [Pamela Reece](#)
To: [Mayor and Council](#)
Cc: [Eric Hanson](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Update & Camelback Bridge/Virginia Ave Update
Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 6:34:26 PM

Mayor and Council,

Thank you for your comments last night relative to staff and citizens responding to this COVID-19 crisis. I also thank you for your support of the ordinance and authorization to amend various policies so we can focus on operational needs swiftly.

As shared on Sunday, I will be providing you with an update every couple days to let you know how we are progressing with COVID-19 response.

1. Mayor Koos issued two Executive Orders:
 - a. Permitting the delivery and sale of packaged liquor. This allows vendors with certain liquor licenses to deliver their products. For example: under this Order, Destihl is now permitted to deliver their packaged beer as long as they comply with state law, insurance requirements, etc. This order was originally issued on Friday and was re-issued today for a 48-hour extension.
 - b. Cancelling the regular April public meetings for: Planning Commission, Zoning Board and Historic Preservation.
2. Ironwood Golf Course and playgrounds closed – although I had reported on Sunday night that Ironwood was open for play, it has now been closed due to review and interpretation of the Governor’s Executive Order. We have posted Ironwood course as closed to the public and we have posted playgrounds as closed. Our staff continues to monitor playgrounds to make sure there are no safety hazards presuming some individuals may use them despite the “closed” notice. We plan to keep them posted until the Governor’s Executive Order is lifted or modified.
3. Illinois National Guard – Governor Pritzker announced today that the IL National Guard will be setting up drive-through testing sites around the state. We have been in contact with ING. They are setting up a site at the McLean County Fairgrounds. They will issue a public information when they are ready. We are not leading this. They will be serving a large population of Central IL at this site. What we know is that days 1-2 (Friday and Saturday, March 27-28) will be dedicated to first responders, jail staff and medical providers. After that, they will focus on general citizens. We are working closely with them, Bloomington and County for support, including traffic control and EMS support as needed. Again, this is not our story to promote. The State and National Guard will issue detailed information when ready.
4. The State has established an email address for anyone who wishes to report a possible business violation of the Governor’s Executive Order. If anyone contacts you with concerns about a business operating in violation of the Governor’s order (claiming they are an essential business but may not be defined as such), the email address is: ceo.support@illinois.gov Anyone can report concerns to this email address and the State will respond accordingly.
5. Council Member Nord contacted Corporation Counsel Brian Day today requesting an ordinance be presented to Council to rescind certain sections of Municipal Code 25.2-12. While I certainly understand some citizens’ fears with the “what if’s” and “what if the Mayor...”, I would respectfully request Council delay reviewing and possibly modifying the municipal code until the organization and community have weathered the crisis at hand,

rather than during this midst of a pandemic - a very high stress and emotional time for many. As staff, we will continue to do our best to provide calm and stability to our residents as much as possible. Please communicate your thoughts directly with Mayor Koos on Mr. Nord's request. I will then react accordingly and prepare the 4/6/20 Council agenda as directed.

Finally, a non-COVID-19 item: the Camelback Bridge has been deemed safe for traffic so we have reopened Virginia Avenue. We are currently exploring options regarding the decorative features (one side fell off last Friday, the other side was removed intentionally). The bridge is designated as an historic structure so staff is currently exploring what we can do in regard to replace or replicate the features within the parameters of its historic designation. When we have that information and detailed options available, I will share that with Council.

Thanks!

Pam

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