



CITY OF AMSTERDAM, NEW YORK

Office of the Mayor

Mayor Michael Cinquanti

March 16, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Declaration of Emergency Pursuant to Executive Law Section 24 for City of Amsterdam, New York

Amsterdam, NY – After attending a meeting this weekend with County health officials and getting a full briefing of the COVID-19 situation in Montgomery County and New York State, Mayor Michael Cinquanti has declared a State of Emergency for the City of Amsterdam, NY effective at 12:00 PM Monday, March 16, 2020. The State of Emergency will remain in effect through Tuesday, March 31, 2020.

Mayor Cinquanti hereby declares the following:

The closing of Amsterdam City Hall and all other City-owned buildings to the public and staff through Tuesday, March 31, 2020. Only essential employees are to report to work.

Meetings of the Common Council shall be closed to the public, including the media. The suspension of the Open Meetings Law has been authorized pursuant to Executive Order No. 202.1 issued by Governor Cuomo on Friday, March 13th, which suspends Article 7 of the Public Officers Law (also known as the Open Meetings Law), to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by law without allowing the public to be physically present at the meeting. The order also authorizes public bodies to meet remotely by conference call or similar service. The public will have the ability to view meetings live on the City of Amsterdam Facebook page and said meetings shall be recorded and transcribed. All other meetings of any and all City boards and/or committees are canceled and shall be rescheduled at a later time.

As part of this declaration Mayor Cinquanti reiterates that the social-distancing mandates already put in place as of the date of this declaration by the New York State Governor and Montgomery County Executive will be enforced in the City along with any additional as will any additional mandates those offices may issue while this emergency remains in effect.

The decision to declare this state of emergency is a proactive measure to prevent the spread of the virus to members of our community, our city employees and their families. The most proven effective way to stop the spread of COVID-19 is to keep people who are or who may be carrying the virus away from those who are not. This action does not indicate a quarantine of the City of Amsterdam. Businesses and organizations may remain open but they are subject to recently enacted New York State mandates for social distancing, which are being expanded upon on a daily basis.

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A complete list of the Governor's COVID-19 emergency mandates can be found online at:
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/executiveorders>.

A press release detailing the mandates set forth in the Montgomery County State of Emergency declaration can be found online at the County's Website at the following link:
<https://www.co.montgomery.ny.us/web/sites/news/printpressrelease.asp?id=3135>

The public is reminded that in the event you or someone you know feels you may be experiencing symptoms of the COVID-19 virus to call your doctor immediately but to not go directly to the doctor's office, an emergency room or other healthcare facilities. This will help prevent the spread of the virus and protect you and your loved ones.

For general questions, residents may also contact the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) 2019 Novel Coronavirus hotline at 1-888-364-3065 to speak with a NYSDOH expert who will answer questions. This is open 24 hours a day.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this challenging time. Together, we will overcome this virus as a community and emerge stronger as a result.

Signed Michael Cincanti
Title Mayor
Date March 16, 2020

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