

JAMES A. DIOSSA
MAYOR



JOSHUA J. GIRALDO
CHIEF OF STAFF

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MAYOR'S OFFICE

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EXECUTIVE ORDER
Covid-19 Preparation and Prevention Measures
2020-0001

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization designated the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and, on March 11, 2020, a Global Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, United States Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the entire United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Gina Raimondo declared a State of Emergency in Rhode Island and activated emergency planning; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared COVID-19 a National Emergency; and

WHEREAS, many communities across the nation are experiencing a growing number of community transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020 the Rhode Island Department of Health established an Incident Command System response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, community transmission in the United States has occurred in many states and is an immediate public health threat to the elderly and those with underlying health conditions; and

WHEREAS, cases of COVID-19 have been documented in the State of Rhode Island and in our neighboring City of Pawtucket; and

WHEREAS, the Central Falls Office on Health and the Pawtucket/Central Falls Emergency Management Agency have been monitoring and advising the city and our schools districts of the precautions and preventative measures we should be enacting; and

WHEREAS, the City has worked tirelessly to contain the spread of COVID-19 and needs to take additional measures to limit the spread of COVID-19.

NOW THEREFORE, I, James A. Diossa, Mayor of the City of Central Falls, pursuant to Sections 4-100 and 102 of the Central Falls Home Rule Charter, order the following to be effective immediately for the next 30 days:

1. Preparation and preventative measures, as recommended by the RI Department of Health, shall be implemented by all employees of the City of Central Falls due to the dangers to health and life posed by COVID-19
2. Strict adherence to Governor Gina M. Raimondo's Executive Orders 20-02 and 20-03 and any directions or directives issued by the Rhode Island Department of Health.
3. All department directors shall participate in a regular COVID-19 briefing from the Central Falls Office on Health, the Pawtucket/Central Falls EMA director and school leaders.
4. All city departments shall continue to cooperate with the Central Falls School District and Charter Districts in Central Falls relative to the health, safety and welfare of our students, parents and teachers.
5. By Monday, March 16th at 12:00 p.m., all city department directors are ordered to present a plan to the Mayor including (1) a plan for their non-essential staff to work remotely; (2) a plan for providing essential services online; (3) a plan if city government were to be closed.
6. The Pawtucket/Central Falls Emergency Management Agency, Office on Health, the Central Falls Police Department and the Central Falls Fire Department are directed to prepare the city's emergency operations center and to activate all other necessary emergency response plans, policies, compacts and agreements.
7. All public meetings in the City of Central Falls shall be, postponed, suspended and/or cancelled and all city departments, boards and commissions performing executive functions shall cooperate fully with Pawtucket /Central Falls EMA and the Office on Health in all matters concerning this Order.
8. All city offices and operations shall remain open until further notice and continue to operate in their ordinary course of business, while taking all necessary precautions as the Department of Health has provided, including, but not limited, to the following:
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- If you believe you've been exposed to COVID-19, please contact your healthcare provider immediately.
- all employees are instructed to thoroughly clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, railings, countertops, desks, phones, keyboards

9. The City Clerk shall create a plan to adequately and continuously sanitize city buildings by Monday, March 16th at 12pm.

10. All non-essential public gatherings of 50 participants or more in the City are recommended to be rescheduled or cancelled, unless appropriate screening measures are established, and proper social distancing efforts are in place.

11. All businesses, community organizations and residents are strongly encouraged to engage in and practice responsible social distancing practices.

12. All city residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to The State of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Department of Health's request that persons over the age of 60 limit their attendance to events and meetings to those with less than 10 attendants.



James A. Diossa
MAYOR

Dated: March 13, 2020