



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

**James O. Langfelder
Mayor**

Dear Residents,

The City of Springfield continues to monitor the rapidly changing updates related to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). I want to commend our Springfield Fire Chief Allen Reyne and his staff, along with Police Chief Kenny Winslow and his officers, as they work to keep our community safe and informed throughout the day. Their departments were especially critical as news of the Amtrak rail passenger, who was on the train from Chicago to St. Louis, hit the headlines last Sunday.

It was announced by the State of Illinois and the Sangamon County Department of Public Health late yesterday that events of 1,000 or more people are cancelled or postponed and event size should be limited to 250 people or less if occurring in the same room. These steps are taken as a way to lessen the impact and spread of COVID-19 in our community.

We ask residents to act cautiously but to please not panic. Our actions are out of an abundance of caution. We want to remind people that our departments and outside entities regularly collaborate on matters of public safety and response to natural and man-made disasters, and emergency preparedness. This matter is no different.

We also know your health is important, and the health of your neighbor is equally important. If you are not feeling well, please stay home and do not go out in public. We urge you to:

- Avoid / stay away from those who are experiencing any illness;
- Wash your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand cleaner;
- Keep hands away from eyes, nose, and mouth;
- Disinfect public counters, desks, common areas, phones, keyboards, etc.;
- Use disinfectant wipes identified for use against Influenza A&B and Coronaviruses;
- Consider creating handshake-free zones in your office or organization.

If you have symptoms (fever, cough, difficulty breathing), please stay home and CALL your doctor. Do not enter a medical facility. Remain at home until you have spoken with your doctor or health provider about next steps. Remain at home until you are cleared to return to work.

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has set up a phone line and email to answer your COVID-19 questions. Please call 1.800.889.3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov . For updates and information, visit the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) website www.cdc.gov/ or IDPH at www.dph.illinois.gov/ .

Sincerely,
-Jim

Jim Langfelder
Mayor