Village of Tinley Park

News Release



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Village Hall to close Tuesday until further notice

The Village of Tinley Park has enacted several measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Effective Tuesday, March 17, Village Hall will be closed to the public and will remain so until further notice.

All meetings following Tuesday's Village Board meeting will be canceled through April 7, including Committee and Commission meetings. In lieu of attending, residents are encouraged to watch tomorrow's Village Board meeting from home, as all meetings are live-streamed on the Village's YouTube page.

The Village also has temporarily closed the Tinley Park Senior Center, and the Senior Bus service will only be available for medical reasons and grocery delivery. Bus service will be subject to driver availability. Several Village events have been canceled, as well, including Photos with the Bunny in April and the Coffee with a Cop event on Thursday, March 19. The Run for Your Life Fire Safety 5K in May has been postponed to a later date.

"In a time of such uncertainty, it's imperative to focus not on fear and speculation, but confidence that we can persevere," Tinley Park Mayor Jacob Vandenberg said. "Public safety is our number-one concern."

The Village also enacted other measures to help ease the burden of those forced to selfquarantine at home. Until further notice, the Village will not charge late fees or shut off water service to residents due to an inability to pay. Similarly, the deadline to purchase vehicle stickers has been delayed an entire month, beginning May 1 and ending July 31. Village Hall Closed Page 2 of 2

Other closings include Tinley Park Public Library, all schools, including districts 228, 230, 140 and 146, and all programs, child care and the gymnasium at the Tinley Park Park District.

"The most important thing everyone can do now is stay calm and be good neighbors," Vandenberg said. "Check on your friends, family and neighbors regularly to make sure they're okay. Together, we can weather this storm."

The State of Illinois has enacted several of its own measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as mandating the closure of all restaurants and bars beginning at 9 p.m. Monday, March 16. In-house delivery, third-party delivery, drive-through and curbside pickup will be allowed. Customers also may enter the premises to buy food or beverages, but establishments must ensure adequate social distancing for every patron.

"It's clear that the next few weeks will be difficult for businesses and residents," Vandenberg said. "Tinley Park officials, staff and first responders are continuing to monitor the situation and are here to help where we can."

The State also banned all community events of 50 people or more. This includes fitness centers and health clubs, bowling alleys, private clubs and theaters, but doesn't include venues that provide essential goods or services such as grocery stores, hospitals, gas stations, bank and credit unions, shelters and pharmacies.

Comcast also recently announced their own measures to ensure people stay connected to the Internet, including free Xfinity WiFi hotspots, free unlimited data, postponed disconnections, Internet Essentials for low-income families, increased speeds and more.

The Village has created a page at <u>www.TinleyPark.org/COVID19</u> as a resource for more information and updated cancelations/closings. On this page you'll also find a video titled "COVID-19: What You Need to Know," which features information and tips from Dr. Mathew S. Philip M.D. from DuPage Medical Group.

"Tinley has a strong history of being a community of understanding and resolve," Vandenberg said. "Let's continue that belief by being kind to one another and following the orders from the State and health officials. Tinley Park residents have a role in the containment of this virus, so let's do our best to make that impact."

Visit the Centers for Disease Control website at <u>www.CDC.gov</u> for additional information. To ask questions or voice your concerns, email <u>COVID19inquiry@TinleyPark.org.</u>