

**CITY OF ROCKVILLE, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 2020-21**

Requesting relief from Governor Walz’s Executive Orders closing non-Critical local businesses.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 12, the Minnesota Legislature conferred upon the Governor emergency powers to deal with disasters, protect the public peace, health and safety, and carry out the state’s emergency management;

WHEREAS, pursuant to that authority and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, on March 16, 2020, Governor Walz issued Emergency Executive Order No. 20-04 ordering the closure of bars, restaurants, and other places of public accommodation and on March 25, 2020, Executive Order NO. 20-20 directing Minnesotans to stay at home except for certain exempted activities and work;

WHEREAS, the Executive Orders have had the desired effect of slowing the spread of COVID-19 and allowing the development of appropriate medical response preparedness.

WHEREAS, the Executive Orders have since been extended, requiring many local businesses to remain closed;

WHEREAS, these local businesses are crucial to the economic vitality of the City of Rockville and continued closure poses an extreme economic hardship on the business owners and employees; and

WHEREAS, local business tends to generate less proximity than the Critical Exempt Businesses which have remained open during this pandemic, have fewer and more controlled points of contact, and are equally able to adopt protective measures for source control and to preserve social distancing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rockville City Council as follows:

That the City Council of Rockville hereby requests relief from Governor Walz’s Executive Orders closing these non-Critical local businesses.

That the City Council of Rockville urges Governor Walz to restore the power of issuing emergency orders and implementation related to the COVID-19 pandemic to individual municipalities and local government agencies to determine whether non-Critical local businesses can safely reopen, while reserving to the Governor the power and authority over Critical Sectors, including but not limited to meat processing plants, hospitals, and long-term care facilities.

Adoption by the City Council of the City of Rockville on this 13th day of May, 2020

ATTEST:

Martin M. Bode
City Administrator

Duane Willenbring
Mayor