



CITY OF CLEVELAND

# Cleveland City Council NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL CITYWIDE EDITION

SPRING 2020 | WWW.CLEVELANDCITYCOUNCIL.ORG



## A MESSAGE FROM CLEVELAND CITY COUNCIL

### Dear Cleveland Residents,

As we are faced with an unbelievable world-wide emergency, the gravity of which has never been seen in our lifetimes, we want to assure you that your representatives in Cleveland City Council are diligently working to keep you informed, healthy and safe.

Communication is a key to stopping the spread of this deadly virus and we have been working to create the channels necessary to keep you informed about the status of this quickly moving disease.

We are living in very stressful circumstances right now, but together we will endure and overcome this microscopic threat known as COVID-19.

Meanwhile, **we ask you to follow some simple recommendations from the national Center for Disease Control:**

### Remember, we are all in this together.

- **Stay at home as much as possible** and avoid contact with others (social distancing).
- **Clean your hands often** with soap and water or hand sanitizer.
- **Avoid touching your face** with unwashed hands.
- **Clean "high-touch" surfaces daily.** These include counters, tabletops, doorknobs, light switches, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, desks, and tablets.

These general practices have proven to be effective in the state of Washington where the virus first hit in the United States.

And if we strictly follow them here, we too will see positive results.

Remember, we are all in this together. The virus doesn't discriminate. It hits young, old, rich and poor. However, it will run its course. Our job is to quicken that run.

Please don't hesitate to call us with questions or concerns. A good source for information is the **Ohio Department of Health which is running a call center seven days a week during this virus crisis.**

**The phone number is: 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).**

You may also visit the department's website specifically on the virus and resources at [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov)

Meanwhile, stay healthy and keep the faith. We will conquer this thing.

STAY IN CONTACT WITH YOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE • DIRECTORY ON PAGE 4

## Important Information Pertaining to the Primary Election Extension

Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections (BOE) has announced its **Vote-by-Mail procedure for those who did not have the opportunity to cast their ballots** in the March 17 Primary Election. Please note that all votes already submitted by mail or in-person before March 17 will be counted.

With the **2020 Primary Election extended until April 28**, the BOE has set up several ways in which you can obtain a Vote-by-Mail ballot application:

1. **PRINT YOUR OWN BALLOT REQUEST APPLICATION:** Go to the Board's website, [www.443VOTE.us](http://www.443VOTE.us) to complete a Ballot Application form by entering your name and birthday. Print and complete the Ballot Application and mail it to the Board of Elections. **This is the recommended method** because it creates a personalized Ballot Application that includes a bar code.



The bar code allows the Board to minimize the time it takes to process the Ballot Application and mail the voter a ballot.

### 2. REQUEST AN APPLICATION BY MAIL:

Go to [www.443VOTE.us](http://www.443VOTE.us) enter your name and birthday and ask the Board to mail you a Ballot Application. When it arrives

complete the Ballot Application and mail it to the Board of Elections.

**Call the Board at 216-443-VOTE (8683)** and ask the Board to mail you a Vote-by-Mail Ballot Application.

**Please return completed Vote-by-Mail application to:** Board of Elections, PO Box 89448, Cleveland, OH 44101-6448

You can also return your application in person to the Board of Elections, which is located at 2925 Euclid Avenue. The building is closed to the public but a secure drop box is located in the parking lot behind the building and is accessible 24 hours a day.

VOTE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

### REMEMBER...

Absentee **BALLOT REQUEST Deadline:** Noon, Saturday, April 25, 2020.

ALL Absentee **BALLOTS** must be submitted by Tuesday, April 28, 2020:

- **Mailed-in Ballots** must be postmarked by Monday, April 27th
- **Dropped-off Ballots** must be delivered in person by Tuesday, April 28th to the Board of Elections at 2925 Euclid Ave. (Drop box located in parking lot behind the building)

## Health Insurance



Ohio's Governor has issued an order requiring insurance companies to permit employers to continue covering employees under group policies even if the employee becomes ineligible due to a decrease in hours worked.

If you've lost your **health insurance**, it may be considered a "qualifying event" for you to sign up for Medicaid or the ACA (Obamacare). For the ACA go to [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) or call 1-800-318-2596 and for Medicaid call 1-800-324-8680 go to [benefits.ohio.gov](http://benefits.ohio.gov).

## Unemployment Benefits

**In Ohio, unemployment benefits have been expanded to those workers who have been quarantined, laid off, or otherwise rendered inoperative due to the coronavirus and/or health crisis.**



The normal one-week waiting period for benefits has also been suspended. You can apply online or call 1-877-644-6562. Agents available M-F 7 am to 7 pm, Saturday 9 am - 5 pm and Sunday 9 am - 1 pm. It takes awhile because of a surge but keep trying. You can apply online at [unemployment.ohio.gov](http://unemployment.ohio.gov). (You'll need some personal and job-related information. For info on what you need go to [jfs.ohio.gov](http://jfs.ohio.gov).) The mass layoff number is 2000180.

## Food Resources

**SNAP** (food stamps) provides a monthly supplement to buy food. Individuals may qualify for SNAP if their household's gross monthly income is at or under 130 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. To apply, visit [benefits.ohio.gov](http://benefits.ohio.gov).



**If you have SNAP you can buy online.** Grocery stores have wireless mobile point-of-sale (POS) devices, they can swipe recipients' EBT cards at curbside. If they do not have mobile POS devices, recipients still can order food in advance and go into the store to pay and pick up their groceries. Retailers also have the option to process manual vouchers at curbside. Grocers cannot accept the EBT card number over the phone.

Also, you don't have to recertify your eligibility. Ohio has extended by six months the recertification eligibility periods for March, April, and May.

Food Banks - call the Greater Cleveland Food Bank's help center at 216-738-2067 to find the nearest food distribution to where they live. The food bank can also help you apply for SNAP.

# Coronavirus

## COVID-19

### Protect Yourself & Others



#### Know How it Spreads

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus (COVID-19).
- **The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.**
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
  - » Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
  - » Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
  - » These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
  - » Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

#### Everyone Should:

- **Clean your hands often.** Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or 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.
- **Avoid close contact.** Avoid close contact with people who are sick and stay home as much as possible. Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread virus.
- **Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.** Everyone should wear a cloth face cover when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities. The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- **Cover coughs and sneezes.** Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues and immediately wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.
- **Clean and disinfect.** Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.

#### Health and Safety:

If you are sick call your healthcare provider for guidance before you go to the hospital. Seek emergency care if you have shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. **If you have symptoms (headache, fever, cough, difficulty breathing, muscle pain), stay at home.** Call MetroHealth's hotline at 440-592-6843 for an assessment or contact your physician. You can schedule a virtual appointment if you have a physician at Cleveland Clinic or University Hospitals.

#### Mental Health:

- Cuyahoga County 24-hour Suicide Prevention, Mental Health/Addiction Crisis, Information and Referral Hotline: 216-623-6888.
- For Stress and Anxiety (but not a crisis) call Cuyahoga County's 24-Hour Warm line at

440-886-5950 to talk through things with a peer.

- Ohio Crisis Text Line Text keyword "4HOPE" to 741 741
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

#### Domestic Violence:

To reach the Domestic Violence and Child Advocacy Center call 216-391-4357.

#### United Way 2-1-1:

Get assistance for your social service needs 24 hours a day. Dial 2-1-1 or visit [www.211oh.org](http://www.211oh.org). Se habla Espanol.

## Business Resources

### CITY OF CLEVELAND

#### Emergency Working Capital Fund

- Up to \$10,000 Loan
- Reimbursement for operating costs incurred for the month of March onward
- No fees
- No interest or payments due until January 1, 2021, 1% interest thereafter.
- Payment of \$150/month until repaid.

#### ELIGIBILITY

- Business that were operating in the City of Cleveland as of March 1, 2020
- Eligible Small Business in line with SBA definitions - Negatively impacted by COVID-19 - Subject to Credit Review

The Department of Economic Development will be posting an application for funds on April 6, 2020. Funds are limited, so applicants are encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible.

Loans funded from the City's resources will have all payments deferred until October 1, 2020. The Department of Economic Development is currently engaged with grantor agencies to secure payment relief for loans funded through these resources.

The Department has already begun implementation of this accommodation with many borrowers having been relieved of their payment obligation due April 1.

If you have a loan with the City and have



not been contacted concerning this debt relief, please contact your loan officer.

### STATE OF OHIO

JobsOhio is providing a **six-month deferral period on all JobsOhio loans**. They have also established a workforce retention loan program. Go to [jobsohio.com/ohio-safe-ohio-working](http://jobsohio.com/ohio-safe-ohio-working).

Ohio has created an **Office of Small Business Relief** to coordinate help, programs, and services. It will operate within the Ohio Development Services Agency at [businesshelp.ohio.gov](http://businesshelp.ohio.gov).

### THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The government has passed the "Cares Act" that offers numerous business grants and loans as well as additional unemployment funding. For more information [home.treasury.gov/cares](http://home.treasury.gov/cares).

# April 2020 Bulk Pick-Up Suspended

All bulk pick-up for the month of April is suspended until further notice. Regular waste collection (trash and recycling) will not be affected.

The reason behind this temporary effort is to reduce any potential exposure of our public service workers to COVID-19.

The City will provide notice when the service resumes.



## Waste Collection Set Out Guidelines FOR WEEKLY TRASH & RECYCLING

Remember, we're all in this together. Be sure to follow the waste collection set out guidelines:

- Please place all waste in the carts provided by the city. Place carts out no earlier than noon the day before your regular pick up day. Remove carts by noon the following day. If possible, use off street parking on your collection day.



Department of Public Works  
DIVISION OF WASTE COLLECTION  
216-664-3711  
www.cleveland-oh.gov

- Use **blue cart** for ALL recyclables (glass, metal, plastic, paper and cardboard). Place items in cart un-bagged. NO recyclables should be placed outside of the blue cart.
- Use **black/gray city issued cart** for household trash and yard waste. NO trash should be placed outside of the black/gray cart.

## Senior Services

The Cleveland Department of Aging remains open Monday – Friday, 8:00 -5:00 pm. Call 216-664-2833 or email them at [aging@city.cleveland.oh.us](mailto:aging@city.cleveland.oh.us).



- For information and assistance about **community resources including home delivered meals, food resources, transportation** and more, call Michael at 664-4383.
- **Daily Phone Call Wellness Program called Cleveland Care Calls** - Call Donna at 664-6316 to sign up.
- **Home Repair Needs** - Call Kathye at 664-7045.
- **Information about Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)** - Call Ursula at 664-2239
- **Resources in Spanish** (Recursos en Español) - Call Yahaira at 420-7616 (Llama a Yahaira al 420-7616).
- **Concerned about a senior neighbor** - Call Alisha at 664-2425.
- **Assistance signing up for local, state and federal benefits** - call Shaniqua at 664-3685
- **General Information** - Call 664-2833
- Find updates on resources on Facebook at Cleveland Department of Aging and on Twitter @ClevelandAging. Also visit our website: [www.city.cleveland.oh.us/aging](http://www.city.cleveland.oh.us/aging)

Cleveland seniors you can also call Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging at 216-621-0303 for information about:



- **Ageing Disability Resource Center Telephone Line**  
The Ageing and Disability Resource Center is fully functioning as a live, off-site call center. If your call goes to voicemail we will return those calls as quickly as possible, with a focus on those with highest priority. We will be returning calls from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., while we transition to our off-site, live call center.
- **In-home Care Services**  
Our priority is also the delivery of vital in-home services to seniors and adults with disabilities. During this time, WRAAA will be limiting our staff's in home visits, pursuant to Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Department of Medicaid standards, to protect older adults, caregivers, and our team members. We will be working closely with our network of contracted organizations and vendor companies to ensure the safety and well-being of participants receiving support through home and community-based programs.
- **Home Delivered Meals**  
There is no interruption in the delivery of the meals. Our providers are working on providing additional shelf stable meals for participants in the event a meal cannot be delivered. Our providers will continue to keep their participants updated if there are any changes regarding their meal delivery.

## City Hall Reduces Hours, Council Offices Closed to Public



The City of Cleveland is moving to an essential workforce and will not allow public access to certain city buildings. All employees will be paid as normal.

City Hall will be open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for limited public services. Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, City Hall will be closed.

Cleveland City Council offices are closed to the public, even on days City Hall is open. Only council members and council staff are allowed access.

Many city departments are closed with no public access. Others have limited public access.

## Department of Public Utilities



Cleveland **PP** PublicPower  
Count on it

**As a reminder, the drinking water is safe.** While business is operating as normal, the Public Utilities Building is closed to the public.

**Cleveland Water and Cleveland Public Power** have temporarily stopped disconnection of residential services for non-payment. Cleveland Water customers should call 216-664-3130 and Cleveland Public Power customers should call 216-664-4600 for service restoration.

**Cleveland Water Pollution Control (WPC)** Customer Service lobby remains open to the public to purchase permits and review maps. The WPC office at 12302 Kirby Ave. is open 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Report emergencies 24/7 by calling 216-664-2513.

**Cleveland Water** customers can make payments and manage their account at [myclevelandwater.com](http://myclevelandwater.com), by calling 216-664-3130. Questions can be submitted via the inquiry form at [clevelandwater.com/ask-a-question](http://clevelandwater.com/ask-a-question). CPP customers can make payments and manage their account at [cpp.org](http://cpp.org). Inquiries and questions can be submitted via [www.cpp.org/Contact](http://www.cpp.org/Contact)

Cleveland Water and CPP customers may also use the dropbox located at 1201 Lakeside. Please include name and account number along with payment. Multiple accounts must be on separate checks.

PRESORT STD.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CLEVELAND, OH  
PERMIT NO. 2893

# CLEVELAND CITY COUNCIL



**WARD 1**

COUNCILMAN

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**WARD 2**

COUNCILMAN

**Kevin L. Bishop**

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**WARD 3**

COUNCILMAN

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**WARD 4**

COUNCILMAN

**Kenneth L. Johnson**

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**WARD 5**

COUNCILWOMAN

**Phyllis E. Cleveland**

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**WARD 6**

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COUNCILMAN

**Kevin J. Kelley**

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**WARD 14**

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**WARD 15**

COUNCILMAN

**Matt Zone**

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CITY OF CLEVELAND

# Cleveland City Council NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2020 | [WWW.CLEVELANDCITYCOUNCIL.ORG](http://WWW.CLEVELANDCITYCOUNCIL.ORG)

COUNCILMAN  
**Kevin J. Kelley**  
CLEVELAND CITY  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

City Hall: 601 Lakeside Avenue  
City Hall, Room 220  
Cleveland, OH 44114

General Council  
Phone Number: 216-664-2840

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Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm for  
limited public services. Mondays, Thursdays  
and Fridays, City Hall will be closed. Council  
Offices are closed to the public.



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**WARD 17**

COUNCILMAN

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General Council Phone Number: 216-664-2840  
[www.clevelandcitycouncil.org](http://www.clevelandcitycouncil.org)  
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