



RICH Township

To The Residents of Rich Township:

I hope all of you are continuing to be well and safe during our COVID-19 ordeal. Wash your hands, wear your masks and employ social distancing. These practices are proven to save lives. This is the third update to my initial letter to you in March. Recently, Governor Pritzker again modified his original "Stay At Home" Executive Order, extending it through Saturday, May 30, 2020. Following those guidelines, I am extending the closure of all Rich Township offices for in-person services through May 30th. Again, this will ensure the safety of not only staff, but our clients during the COVID-19 crisis. We have been prudent, proactive and productive during the entire crisis, with call in issues being dealt with by our departments and constitutional offices like the Township Assessor. A little history: based on the initial guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we closed down operations at the Senior Center in Park Forest on March 13th. Soon after, we suspended all Transportation Department operations based upon edicts discouraging group congregation. On the 17th, we executed the initial end of March suspension of services and extended them on March 20th. We extended them to April 7th, April 30th, and now May 30th. There are almost 13 million residents in our great state; over 70,000 reside in Rich Township. Our job, first and foremost, is to protect the health, safety and welfare of all of our constituents. That, we have and will continue to do. We must all collectively understand the necessity for these decisions and the gravity of this unprecedented crisis. That being said, the Township is a provider of "essential services" as a unit of government and as defined by the Governor's Executive Order. Be advised that Road District project work of an emergency nature will proceed on a case by case basis. We have started a limited Food Pantry operation for current clients on a call-in basis only. After receiving scheduling information, qualifying clients will be able to pick up groceries in a drive-up, no contact manner. The schedule is Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 to 3:30 in the Main Building parking lot. See the Home Page of the website or the Food Pantry link for more detailed information. Know that I and other key staff are present in the facility. The administrative work of the Township continues. Department Heads, Constitutional Officers (Assessor, Highway Commissioner and Clerk) are monitoring emails and phone messages and coming into the office on a regular basis.

So, like other units of government, the basic work of government continues apace. Again, we are providing many of our normal services but will do so in a safe, efficient manner. As things change on a minute by minute basis, please refer to the website for guidance. It will be updated expeditiously as things change. We are all in this together and we will get through this crisis if we all work together. Again, if anyone has any questions, they can go to this website; richtownship.org or call:

Senior Center - (708) 228-5040

Clerk - (708) 228-5045

Highway Department - (708) 228-5049

Food Pantry - (708) 228-5002

General Assistance - (708) 228-5030

Transportation - (708) 228-5028

Assessor - (708) 228-5025

Main Number - (708) 748-6722

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Al Riley, AICP
Rich Township Supervisor

Supervisor
Al Riley, AICP
Clerk
Bobbie G. King
Assessor
Sam Brown, CIAO
Highway Commissioner
Calvin Jordan
Trustees
Nick P. Bobis
Therese H. Goodrich
Elliott H. Johnson
Jacquelyn Small

IMPORTANT POSTS AND LINKS TO VITAL INFORMATION

Governor Pritzker's "Stay At Home" Executive Order 2020-10, Explained:

https://www.richtownship.org/files/New_Executive_Order_Explanation_Rev1.pdf

The Actual Executive Order Extension As Released By The Office Of The Governor

<https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/Executive-Orders/ExecutiveOrder2020-33.aspx>

The Illinois Department of Public Health Website

<https://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus>

Cook County Department Of Public Health

<https://www.cookcountypublichealth.org/>

The Centers For Disease Control And Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

World Health Organization "Mythbusters" Page

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters>