

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-02

Limit Access to City Facilities

WHEREAS, Governor Eric J. Holcomb declared a public health disaster emergency in Indiana attributable to the detection of the novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) within the State of Indiana;

WHEREAS, Governor Holcomb has further directed the limitation of in-person events to no more than 50 people, and the closure of bars, nightclubs, and restaurants to in-person patrons;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has continued to spread throughout the State of Indiana;

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control states that COVID-19 spreads from person-to-person (within six (6) feet of another person) and through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person sneezes or coughs;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has infected individuals in Saint Joseph and Noble Counties, which neighbor Elkhart County and the Elkhart County Health Department has stated it expects to see cases in Elkhart County very soon;

WHEREAS, the City of Goshen, Indiana intends to remain open to business, and wishes to continue to operate and provide services to the residents of Goshen, yet wishes to protect its employees and the residents of Goshen from the spread of COVID-19 in the City of Goshen;

WHEREAS, the City of Goshen must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the delivery of vital public services are not interrupted.

WHEREAS to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 to City employees and the public, it is necessary to temporarily limit public access to the City of Goshen municipal buildings and facilities.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that access by members of the public to City of Goshen buildings and facilities be restricted under the following terms and conditions:

1. Public access to City Hall and the City Annex building shall be restricted to the hours of 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, Monday through Friday. During the hours that said buildings are open to the public, City staff shall partition a small area for the public to enter. City staff shall make contact with the public within the designated area within each building to provide necessary services. Outside of these times, members of the public may contact Departments within these buildings by phone or email.
2. City buildings and facilities other than City Hall and the City Annex building shall have restricted public access as posted on the doors of the buildings.
3. City staff shall post on the entrances to public buildings a list of City offices and phone numbers for each office, as well as current access restrictions in place. The public may continue to access each City office by telephone and email during regular business hours.


4. City employees shall make efforts to limit person-to-person contact with members of the public. Any person-to-person contact between City employees and members of the public may be authorized by City Department Heads.

5. The City shall make necessary arrangements and accommodations to allow public meetings to continue in the City of Goshen Council Chambers that are currently scheduled and that are necessary to conduct essential City business, and for the public to attend and participate in accordance with Indiana's Open Door Law.

6. The City of Goshen will continue to offer services to members of the public, though some services may be restricted or delayed.

7. All City Department Heads shall analyze operation of their respective Departments and implement policies, procedures, or protections intended to slow the spread of COVID-19, yet that would allow the City to provide services to members of the public.

Dated this 17 day of March, 2020.



Jeremy P. Stutsman, Mayor