



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT • 1140 Terex Road • Hudson, Ohio 44236 • (330) 342-1790

Date: May 1, 2020  
To: Jane Howington, City Manager  
From: Greg Hannan, Community Development Director  
CC: Thomas J. Sheridan, Asst City Manager  
Re: COVID 19 Response – Merchant Support

As the stay at home restrictions begin to ease, our staff have been communicating with merchants on resources and support the city can provide. Listed below are city initiatives that are either underway or to be considered for the duration of 2020. Staff anticipates needing to continually update programs as more information becomes available from the State of Ohio and as merchants begin to reopen.

Land Development Code: Moratoriums on the following until Dec 31, 2020

1. Temporary Signs: Moratorium on temporary sign enforcement in commercial districts.
2. Outdoor Sales: Moratorium on the enforcement of regulations related to outdoor sales/displays to accommodate social distancing and to offset reduced interior occupancy of businesses.
3. Expiration of permits and board approvals: Moratorium on expiration of board approvals and zoning certificates so construction projects delayed due to the stay at home order would not be required to go back through approval processes.

City Services/Programs:

4. Communications - Provide coordinated public information to be displayed at all businesses open to the public. Information to include coordinated shop local logos with state established protocols on social distancing, use of masks, and related items.
5. Outdoor Seating: Provide outdoor picnic tables in the downtown greens and cafe seating along the public sidewalks for carry out service from restaurants, while maintaining a safe and ADA accessible path at all time.  
Note: Merchants have also expressed interest in accommodating alcohol consumption in compliance with state and local regulations. Additional study will be needed to determine if such would be feasible.
6. Parking: Installation of curbside service reserved parking stall signage adjacent to restaurants and businesses in need of such dedicated turnover spaces.

7. Promotion: Ongoing promotion to support shop local efforts through social media, website, and promotional videos.
8. Connecting resources: City staff will continue to connect business to available State and Federal resources.
9. Activate Downtown: The virus restrictions will not allow for large scale festivals in the community. Additional activation of downtown can occur with smaller scale, more frequent enhancements:
  - a. Downtown public art.
  - b. Light up the clock tower, streetscape.
  - c. Micro events: Chalk art, sidewalk signage, small scale live music, pop up displays.
  - d. Downtown banners on light poles.