A Message From Mayor Dingle

To all residents, neighbors, and friends, I want to address where the City of St. Paul Park stands on the COVID19 situation. I want to assure you that St. Paul Park City Officials and Staff are closely monitoring the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) and MDH (Minnesota Department of Health) recommendations for current advisories and we request that all citizens do the same. Accordingly, the CDC and MDH advise that we all use the same precautions recommended for avoiding colds and flu:

- Regularly wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water (for at least 20 seconds).
- Stay home if you feel sick.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid touching your face, especially eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Regularly disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.

With the Governor’s recent Peacetime Emergency Declaration, the MDH recommends postponing or canceling certain events. These events include:

- Large events of 250 or more people should be postponed or canceled.
  - This includes but is not limited to concerts, conferences, and professional, college, and school performances or sporting events.
- Smaller events that are held in venues that do not allow social distancing of 6 feet per person.
  - This includes gatherings in crowded auditoriums, rooms or other venues.
- Events where the majority of participants are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be limited to no more than 10 people.
  - This includes gatherings at retirement facilities, assisted living facilities, developmental homes, and health support groups.

Examples of city meetings and activities that are, as of now, expected to go on as planned include: city council meetings; city committee and commission meetings; and regular business at city hall.

However, the Minnesota Department of Health is currently recommending the public start moving toward the practice of Social Distancing, especially for those at high risk. This is not a decision being made out of panic, but out of an abundance of caution.

As this situation continues to evolve, the city is prepared to make changes under the guidance of the CDC, MDH and Washington County Public Health. The City of St. Paul Park is preparing to implement a Continuity of Operations plan that addresses how we will provide essential services as the situation evolves.

For more information please rely on updates posted to the Minnesota Department of Health website or the CDC website for the most accurate and timely information on the virus. Minnesota Department of Health COVID-19 Hotline - 651-201-3920.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we work through this health challenge. Be assured the city will be relying heavily on guidance from MDH and CDC and we will do our very best to keep the community informed and to continue to provide services to the community.