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Date: March 19, 2020 at 8:42:55 PM EDT

To: Carol Everhart <Carol@beach-fun.com>

Subject: Message from City Manager

Reply-To: slynn@cityofrehoboth.com

As the Coronavirus continues to change on a daily basis with so many different moving pieces, full time residents and second homeowners need to remain very watchful and monitor your travel in and out of the City of Rehoboth Beach. For part time residents who are considering traveling to your homes here, or if you are already here, it is very important to consider staying in your homes as much as possible while social distancing from the public. Today is the first day of spring! It is also spring break for many college students. We have seen an influx of visitors especially on sunny days and tomorrow's temperature is likely to be in the mid-70's. We expect many people to be traveling to the city for the weekend.

Governor Carney's emergency declarations include the closing of restaurants except for take-out, delivery and drive-through service; bowling alleys, movie theaters and fitness centers are closed as are many retail stores. Although some businesses in the City of Rehoboth Beach remain open, and take away food is prevalent, please be mindful of your surroundings and potential exposure to thousands of visitors who choose to come here. Sheltering-in-place is your best option.

Perhaps the most important considerations to realize is where we are, and who we are. The demographics of our city include a majority over the age of 60, the most vulnerable age at risk to be infected with the Coronavirus. We live in a very small community with limited hospitalization facilities that cannot handle the potential number of illnesses this crisis may bring. Although the county numbers of those infected remain low, trends across the nation show an exponential rise in cases from the very first illness, thus the critical nature of this virus. We do not want the virus to spread amongst us. We must remain vigilant, sensible and focus on the most responsible and prudent way to continue our lives during this crisis. Staying at home and practicing social distancing is both the responsible and prudent way to proceed at this time of crisis. Although we are aware that these are difficult times where even more drastic guidelines may be on the horizon, it is necessary to take these steps to protect all of our citizens and our city employees, who are continuing to provide the services you need every day.

We have passed the time to just be cautious. Every day we see the numbers grow. This is a stressful time for all of us. I continue to be watchful and I continue to make rational decisions based on the best guidance from Delaware's Division of Public Health. We are all in this together!

Please continue to stay informed by following the latest news on the city's website and a new Coronavirus Update on the homepage which links live to [Delaware.gov/coronavirus](https://delaware.gov/coronavirus).