



## MARCH 24, 2020 MAYORAL ADDRESS

Hello Davenport.

I am here to continue informing our community on the reaction the City of Davenport is taking in response to COVID-19.

Keep a safe distance of at least 6 feet between you and others and **WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY. These are two of the best way to help prevent the spread.**

As a reminder - to better protect the health of our employees and The City of Davenport has limited the access to City Hall, Davenport Police Department, Davenport Public Works, RiverCenter and Adler Theatre.

The public will still be able to conduct business, but not face-to-face. Phones are available in the front vestibules at City Hall, the Police Department and Public Works to contact an employee.

Residents who need to do business with the City are encouraged to do so online. A list of City online resources can be found at [www.davenportiowa.com/covid](http://www.davenportiowa.com/covid)

I want to take a moment to wish a happy farewell to our Finance Director Brandon Wright. As a result of his good financial stewardship, the City is able to respond to COVID-19 with minimal impact to the city's budget.

Recently I have visited with every Fire Department shift and stations along with the Police Department to hear first-hand how our first responders are continuing to serve our community during this time. They are on the front-line fight of this response.

I have spoken with Genesis many times and want to give my sincere thanks to our healthcare workers who take care of those in need 24/7 and stand ready to deal with this public health emergency. We applaud your efforts!

Davenport community, please look out for each other. Call and check in on family and friends. Check on the elderly from a distance and know we are with you. If a relative is located in a nursing home, retirement home, or long-term care facility, please stay away. If relatives live at home, visitors should still be limited unless absolutely necessary, good housekeeping practices and social distancing should be followed. Remember, just because you feel fine, you could still be carrying the virus and exposing it to others.

I want to thank the many volunteers that have offered their support for our city and surrounding community, especially helping give out meals for our school children. If you are in need of a meal for your child, the Davenport School District has begun handing out free meals. Please visit their website for details.

We will execute our City Council meeting tomorrow as we did last week. Please email me any comments by noon tomorrow, March 25. Thank you to our City IT department for making this process happen. We will split the council up virtually to maintain the CDC guidelines of gathering of ten or less.

If you feel sick:

1. Call your doctor and stay home. If you think you need a test for COVID, you must have a referral from your doctor first.
2. Please ensure you follow your doctor's precautions.
3. Please maintain your distance from others.

I strongly encourage our community to support our local businesses during this time by ordering curb side and delivery, purchasing gift cards and visiting their online stores for items. The Mississippi Blood center is in need of blood if you are able. They need our help more than ever now.

Governor Reynolds announced the launch of a new Iowa Small Business Relief Program that will provide financial assistance to small businesses that have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program offers eligible small businesses grants ranging from \$5,000-\$25,000 in addition to offering Iowa businesses a deferral of sales and use or withholding taxes due and waiver of penalty and interest. More information can be found at [www.iowabusinessrecovery.com](http://www.iowabusinessrecovery.com).

As families and children are staying home, we want to ensure they are taking safety precautions. Our Davenport Police Department will be providing tips via their social media page during this time.

City Administration staff and I continue to work with the Scott County EMA and Health Department along with Iowa League of Cities and other state leaders on daily conference calls to discuss our efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19 in Iowa. I am in contact with our public health officials, emergency management leaders and Quad Cities Mayors locally. We will beat this, and know myself and your city are with you.

Please take the bans and guidance seriously. This is a National and State Health Emergency. This is local and we need to act as a community to protect each of us.