

Wayne County Commission Chair

7th District Update Alisha Bell



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Stay home, Stay safe:

Abiding by this simple rule will help us all stay healthy and move closer to living normally again

Dear friends:

We all face major changes in our lives as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. It has also forced changes in the way business is conducted in Wayne County and on the Wayne County Commission.

Those Wayne County employees defined as non-essential under Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's Executive Order on COVID-19 continue to be furloughed with pay and are working from their homes.

The Wayne County Commission is currently conducting meetings via the app Zoom.

This newsletter provides answers to a number of the questions I have been asked lately about the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact, including information on where members of the public can find accurate information on keeping themselves and their families safe, where small businesses can apply for special loans and how the public can participate in commission meetings.

I hope you will find it useful and hope you will continue to practice social distancing and continue to follow Gov. Whtimer's Executive Order on slowing the spread of COVID-19.

Stay home. Stay safe.

Wayne County steps up to assist small businesses

The Wayne County Commission recently expanded the county's COVID-19 Small Business Relief Fund, allocating an additional \$2 million from the county's general fund to increase its potential funding to \$14 million and make loans available to small businesses throughout the county.

The loan program represents a partnership between the county and Wayne County-based TCF Bank. It provides low-interest loans of up to \$50,000 to eligible



businesses. While the program initially targeted small business in low-income census tracts, it is now available for businesses in every county community.

Businesses can more about the program and apply for loans by contacting



one of the 15 TCF Bank and Chemical Bank banking centers located in Wayne County. Loan applications and a list of banking centers are available at tcfbank.com/waynecounty and also at chemicalbank.com/ waynecounty.

Where to find information on the COVID-19 pandemic

One of the most frequently asked questions involving the COVID-19 pandemic is: "Where can I go for accurate information on keeping myself and my family safe?"

Fortunately, Wayne County and the City of Detroit are making this information readily available.

Tips on staying safe are included on the city's health department website https://detroitmi.gov/departments/detroit-health-department and on the county website www.waynecounty.com.

Detroit residents without internet access can also call the city health department at (313) 876-4000.

A complete list of resources available to Detroit residents is also available at the website COVID 313, https://covid313.org/.

In addition, the District 7 Facebook page, District 7 – Detroit, also contains updates especially of interest to residents of this district.

An official report from the Wayne County Department of Health, Human & Veterans Services is also released each day at https://www.waynecounty.com/departments/hhvs/wellness/novel-coronavirus-information.aspx and shared via the Wayne County Commission Facebook page. This report includes updated information from the county and state, as well as from federal and international health officials, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Wayne County website, **www.waynecounty.com**, includes a dashboard showing an up-to-the minute breakdown of the impact of the pandemic for all Wayne County communities, excluding Detroit.





COVID-19 pandemic poses special concerns for African Americans

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread, health officials have begun to note that, while information remains spotty, African Americans appear to face greater risk for infection and death.

Recent statistics from the State of Michigan show that Black and African Americans account for at least one-third of those hospitalized for COVID-19 as well as 40 percent of those who have lost their lives to the virus.

At the same time, race was not listed for roughly one-third of those hospitalized and one-quarter of COVID-19 related fatalities.

Under those state statistics, Detroit accounts for just under 30 percent of all cases and slightly more than one-quarter of all fatalities.

While the federal Centers for Disease Control has come under criticism for not providing COVID-19 breakdowns by race, the website WebMD recently published a report indicating that health experts believe several factors could place African Americans at greater risk.

These factors include poverty, access to adequate medical care, lack of opportunity to work from home and underlying health factors, including obesity and diabetes.

That also indicates African Americans must take extra care in following such practices as social distancing, extended hand washing and sanitizing and using protective masks and gloves in slowing the spread of COVID-19 and reducing the risk of infection.

Commission meetings can be viewed through Zoom app

Due to stay in place orders involving the COVID-19 pandemic, the Wayne County Commission will be holding its meetings by teleconference until further notice.

The public can participate in the meetings, as they occur, via the Zoom app. Zoom can be accessed via computer, table or smartphone. Individuals can join meetings by visiting https://zoom.us/j/8599664354 and dialing (312) 626-6799.

The meeting ID no. is 859 966 4354. Zoom also allows the public to comment and ask questions. Questions can also be emailed to plane@waynecounty.com.

Meetings are held in accordance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act and under the commission's standard rules of order.

Meeting agendas are available on the county webpage, www.waynecounty.com.

Next Full Commission
Meeting
Tuesday, April 14
10 a.m.



Attention Small Businesses:

Learn what your elected officials can do for you by joining in live on this special webinar



COVID -19 BUSINESS RESOURCE LIVE WEBINAR

Panelists:



Warren C. Evans Wayne County Executive



Rep. Rashida Tlaib 13th District of Michigan



Rep. Deborah Dingell



State Rep. Abdullah Hammoud



Gary Torgow

Executive Chairman, TCF Financial Corp.

Supporting Panelists:

- · Constance Logan, SBA
- Wendy Thomas, SBDC

What to Expect:

- Latest Small Business Financial Resources
- Small Business Assistance Contacts
- Covid-19 Legislative updates
- Q&A

Moderated by:



Khalil Rahal Wayne County Assistant County Executive

facebook



bit.ly/WCBizEvent

Date: Tues, April 14th Time: 1-2pm

For more information Contact: EconomicDevelopment@waynecounty.com

Wayne County Commission Chair



Alisha Bell
COMMISSIONER • DISTRICT 7
500 GRISWOLD, 7TH FLOOR
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226



FLAT COST: \$191.82/ mo per employee

WAYNE COUNTY HEALTHCHOCE of Michigan

DO | QUALIFY?

Your small business must be located in Wayne

 Business suffered substantial hardship (at least 25% loss of revenue) due to COVID-19 emergency

 You are a small business that employs fewer than 100 employees or has revenue of approximately \$1MM or less

- You have a minimum of two (2) employees
- More than 50% of employees have an hourly wage of \$14.50 or less
- Business has been established for at least one year



A SMALL BUSINESS?

HAVE YOU BEEN IMPACTED

BY COVID-19?

WAYNE COUNTY
HEALTHCHOICE REDUCED
PRICING BY 20%

*Introductory Offer Limited To The First Two Months



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Coverage for:	Cost
Employee Only	-\$239.77- \$191.82
Employee & Spouse	-\$555.93- \$444.74
Employee & one (1) minor family depen- dent	-\$378.74- \$302.99
Employee & two (2) minor family dependents	-\$504.21 \$403.37
Employee, Spouse & one (i) minor child or any three (3) family members	-\$757.28- \$605.82
Employee, Spouse & one (t) minor child or any three (z) family members	\$981.00 \$784.80