

BASHERT'S BI-WEEKLY MAYORAL BULLETIN



STAY HOME AND STAY SAFE

And so it continues. People's patience is strained, our children are bored, we are tired of home projects, there's nothing on TV, you can only read so much, and virtual games/contacts are really not enough.

Spring fever is coming on, I am pleased to see people using our parks for some sunshine and walking. If you are outside, please observe a social distance of 6' with anyone not in your family or household.

As the Governor has extended Stay Home Stay Safe, I celebrate and support her work to save all our lives. Please follow the rules, don't congregate, wear your masks, wash and sanitize your hands and face often.

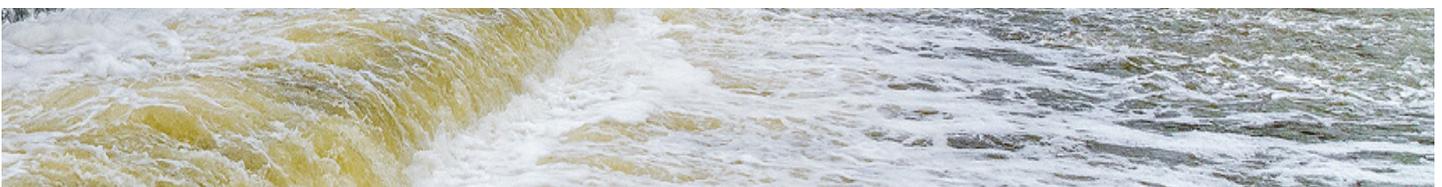
Ypsilanti will start distributing PPE kits to our community. Anyone in the City can request a kit and pick it up, a link will be available to do this once the program is up and running. Many of our residents will get a kit through their boxes from Affordable Housing, Parkridge Community Center, or the Senior Center. There is plenty to go around.

Your health and safety is vital to all of us! We want to see you continue to be as healthy as possible as we move through whatever changes come our way.

Below is an article that presents some of what the restaurant industry is doing to prepare for opening back up to full service.

Our City and DDA are also working hard with our business community to help them open up as successfully as possible. We are considering many ideas that include grants, street closures for distance seating, marketing strategies, information distribution for opportunities for businesses or individuals. Nothing is finalized, and all ideas are dependent on the Governor's rules, which are based on science, with a goal of health and safety for us all.

These are unprecedented times, we all need to work together on our goals. Disagreeing on tactics is great; let's always retain our passionate caring about our community! We can all work together to Stay Home, Stay Safe!



COVID-19 TESTING IN 48197/48198

ONGOING TESTING

-  Perry Early Learning Center
550 Perry Street, Ypsilanti
-  Starting May 7: Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

**Drive-Up
OR
Walk-Up!**

No appointment
or prescription
needed.

POP-UP TESTING

-  Ypsilanti Township Community Center
2025 E Clark Rd, Ypsilanti Township
 Saturday, May 9, 9am-5pm
-  Community Family Life Center (CFLC)
1375 South Harris Road, Ypsilanti Township
 Saturday, May 16, 9am-5pm

NO COST.

Bring your insurance
card if you have one
No one will be turned away
for lack of insurance.

Who can get tested? Anyone with mild symptoms including:



Fever



Cough



Shortness
of breath



Muscle
aches



Severe
tiredness



Loss of taste
or smell



Diarrhea



Runny nose, sore
throat or congestion

Nearly half of all Washtenaw residents who've tested positive for Covid-19 live in 48197/48198, but less than a third of the county's residents live in these zip codes.



RESTAURANTS LAY OUT PLAN TO OPEN MAY 29

Source: *MIRS Capitol Capsule – Friday, May 8, 2020*

[The Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association \(MRLA\)](#) today sent to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer a “road map” to how bars, restaurants and hotels could reopen May 29, after the current emergency order expires.

Restaurants need a certain date when they can restart, said MRLA President Justin Winslow, because they’ll need time to get ready.

“It is going to take significant time, more than most if not all other industries, to get the supply chain in order, to get the restaurants properly sanitized, to get their staff properly trained in what it is going to take to run a restaurant with requirements they haven’t had before,” Winslow told MIRS today. “How do you design your dining area to meet the six-foot spacing requirements that are going to be a part of our new reality? All of these things combined make for at least a two-week process.”

And then there is the cost.

“Financing these new expectations is not going to be easy for an industry that has had zero revenue, or very little revenue, for two-plus months,” he said. “Dealing with the workforce, getting them to come back, is not going to be an easy scenario when many of them are making more money frankly in many instances on unemployment at least through the month of July.”

But if restaurants are not soon allowed to open, he said, there won’t be much of an industry left to return to because restaurants are closing at record rates, Winslow contended. And by May 29, most restaurant industries in other states will already be back in action.

Whitmer Press Secretary Tiffany Brown confirmed that her office has received the plan.

“As the Governor has said, she will be making decisions based on science and data. She has brought together leaders in health care, business, labor and education to develop the MI Safe Start plan to re-engage our economy in a way that protects workers and their families. She will continue to listen to medical experts and put the health and safety of Michiganders first,” Brown said.

The Roadmap includes health and safety guidelines, recommended operational and safety protocols for customers and employees, and tips for building consumer confidence. There are eight checklists in the plan that “collectively address all aspects” of restaurant operation.”

The plan provides guidance to restaurants on how to expand cleaning procedures, develop a COVID-19 response team, add employee health and PPE requirements, address social distancing, manage food pick-up and delivery services, and reopen water systems for safe consumption and use.

The plan incorporates guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Federal Drug Administration (FDA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as well as Whitmer’s Michigan Economic Recovery Committee’s protocols.



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Winslow said some of the verbiage in the guidelines was taken directly out of the Governor's Executive Orders.

"The purpose of this document is not to excoriate the Governor or to somehow vilify her in any way," Winslow said. "It is an offering of detailed substantive work, that we are pretty proud of, that we are putting forward to restaurateurs, but also to her. Restaurateurs need and have not yet received more clear guidance and a date certain that this industry can reopen."

The restaurant industry, which generated \$19 billion in sales in 2019, lost approximately \$1.2 billion in sales in April 2020, Winslow contended. Since the COVID-19 outbreak began, 249,000 restaurant employees have been laid off in Michigan and between March 1 and April 16, 53% of Michigan restaurants have temporarily and 2% have closed permanently.

MAY 3 PANEL EXAMINES ARMED PROTEST IN CAPITOL

There have been many discussions in our community about the armed protests at the Capitol in recent days. I have found the below panel of legislators and other leaders to be a useful take on these disturbing events. With more protests planned, I am sharing this panel with you.

On April 30th, our Michigan state legislature was called back into session by the GOP leadership hell bent on thwarting the Governor's power. Also in attendance was a blaring display of white privilege. White protesters in combat gear with racist emblems threatened the lives of our legislators, most of whom have never experienced the trauma of white rage directed at them. The May 3 panel below explores the traumatic effects of white terrorism, something people of color live with every day.

If you were not able to join Ypsi Can I Share on May 3 for our panel discussion on ["Privilege Meets Privilege at the State Capitol,"](#) please watch the linked recording. Panelists included County Commissioner/Therapist, Felicia Brabec, Rep. Ronnie Peterson, Rep. Donna Lasinski, Floor Operations Manager for Yousef Rabhi Jelani McGadney, Rep. Yousef Rabhi, Sen. Jeff Irwin, and Congress woman Debbie Dingell.

INTERESTING HISTORY OF THE NAMES OF MANY OF OUR STREETS

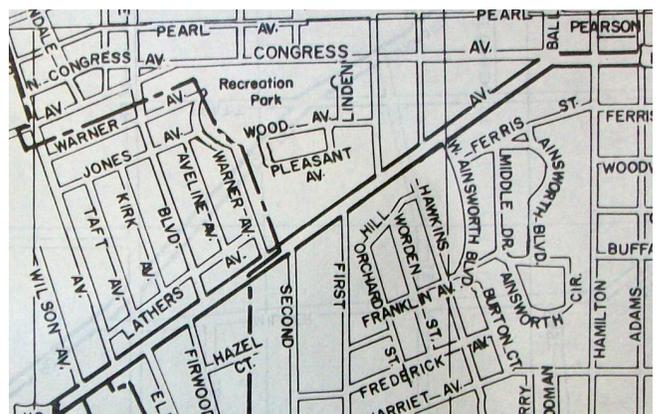
This was a great discussion going on on social media, and these articles were posted as part of the conversation. I couldn't resist sharing it with you. History buffs, the floor is yours...

[Part 1](#)

[Part 2](#)

[Part 3](#)

Speaking of streets...



STREET CLOSURE AND PROJECT

West Cross will be closed from Courtland to Wallace beginning shortly (specific date is dependent on a variety of things starting with Covid) and ending sometime in October. We all know our streets need both repair as well as traffic calming work. This is one project that has been in the works for at least 2 years.

[For details, here is a presentation for you to review.](#)



HOW ARE OUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS MANAGING?

More than ever, we realize the important role our many local nonprofit organizations play in our community. At risk of missing and/or overlooking any of these vital groups, I will not call out any one in particular. [This article](#) from On The Ground Ypsi does a great job of that.

I do want to include a HUGE shout out to the volunteers and staff who have risked themselves to help our community during the pandemic. Their families also need to know how grateful we are for all of their work. During the pandemic, just showing up is a risk for not just the individual but also for their families. Thank you! We are grateful for your work!

MAYORAL OFFICE HOURS

A drop-in, Zoom event for everyone to ask questions, discuss needs or current issues. Do you have questions about the Stay Home Stay Safe? The proposed train Platform/station grant proposal that failed? Covid testing opportunities and goals? Business opening questions?

Sunday, May 17, 2020 1-4 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88530466642>

No password required



IN COMMUNITY,

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Phone: 734-368-3573

READING THIS OFFLINE? Here's a list of links I mentioned in the articles above.

MRLA Michigan Restaurant and Lodging Association

<https://www.mrla.org/open.html>

Privilege meets privilege at the State Capitol

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1692320967572693>

Part 1

https://aadl.org/ypsigleanings/13273?fbclid=IwAR1_rUoWqpnvydR1XELomDmz2CU5iQ6p4rtoVL-DruCK-4M3R-12fu_qb2lc

Part 2

https://aadl.org/ypsigleanings/13402?fbclid=IwAR2tBsYODybXD-o61b_uCV9eNts318VmVkp6hXKtAgjvt6PzNqS-jN0ZNdxl

Part 3

https://aadl.org/ypsigleanings/13335?fbclid=IwAR0kxmP1vD3AwoYxORaAXunymeBtRKs_8RhpCi1tZcwgLa-MAE7DPIJF2Gxs

W. Cross Street Presentation

https://cityofypsilanti.com/DocumentCenter/View/2439/West-Cross-Street-Presentation-PDF?fbclid=IwAR3G7P4-PvXezR70A_Axva5Ow3G2wQmoms7fQ0pNgLUqnP-pedSN6WKn4cs

Article from OTG Ypsi

<https://www.secondwavemedia.com/concentrate/features/ypsinonprofits0548.aspx>

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