ORDINANCE: To Authorize City Manager to Suspend the Application of Certain City Laws to Slow

the Spread of COVID-19

## BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND as follows:

On March 5, 2020, Maryland Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. proclaimed a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency for the entire State of Maryland pursuant to Title 14 of the Public Safety Article of the State Code, due to the impending threat and continuing impact of the contagious disease known as COVID-19. COVID-19 is a severe respiratory disease capable of extensive loss of life or serious disability currently circulating within Montgomery County, Maryland.

Under Article IV, Section 1 of the City Charter, the Mayor and Council of Rockville is authorized to pass ordinances for the protection and promotion of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the City. Because the transmission of COVID-19 poses an immediate and serious threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the residents, businesses, and employees of the City of Rockville, the City Manager is hereby authorized to suspend the application of any City law to the extent necessary to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to ensure that City government continues to function in a manner consistent with best practices identified by health authorities and the executive orders of the Governor of the State of Maryland.

Any action taken by the City Manager under this ordinance must be in consultation with the Mayor and Council when possible; must be in a writing signed by the City Manager and immediately relayed to the Mayor and Council; must be promptly posted on the City website; and must be transmitted to the City Clerk for recordkeeping. This ordinance will automatically expire upon the Maryland Governor's announcement of the end of the state of emergency for COVID-19.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Mayor and Council of Rockville at its meeting of March 23, 2020.

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations