

Memorandum

4/27/2020

From the Office of the Mayor of Winooski

Kristine Lott, Mayor
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To: Winooski City Council

In response to the COVID-19 emergency here in the State of Vermont, the City of Winooski suspended all policy commission meetings as of March 13, 2020 as public gatherings have been suspended and staff have been focused on our emergency response. The Stay Home order is currently in place through May 15 and we do not know what will come after that date, or when people will be able to gather in groups again. During this time, the City Council has continued to meet remotely to conduct critical business. We should consider whether our policy commissions could reconvene remotely as well. Some considerations:

- Is there critical policy work we wish to move forward in the existing commission workplans?
- Does staff have capacity to support commission meetings, given that we are down to essential employees and essential services?
- Do commission members wish to continue with remote meetings?
- Do residents have the ability and capacity to engage in these discussions?

Since our last meeting, each Council Liaison should have had a conversation with their commission's Chair and Staff Liaison to answer these questions and let that inform an official decision whether to reconvene any commissions remotely and for what policy purpose.

Signed,

Kristine Lott, Mayor

