



RCLLG

RAMSEY COUNTY LEAGUE
OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



Save the Date

June Monthly Members Meeting



Friday, June 12th | 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Virtual Meeting

Updates and Discussion with
Ramsey County's State Legislators



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Ramsey County's State Legislators*

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More Details to Come



Ramsey County Community Updates

*The fourth of bi-weekly newsletters detailing how different
communities in Ramsey County are handling the Pandemic.*

This week includes:

- May 8th Virtual Meeting Recap
- Policy Action Group Updates
- What's New in Lauderdale?
- Beating Boredom - What's keeping residents busy?

RCLLG hosts first virtual roundtable discussion with members!



Meeting Recap

Last Friday we held our first virtual roundtable discussion. Over 20 participants from Ramsey County local governments and school districts attended, as well as [participants](#) representing Metro Cities, the MET Council, and Ramsey County. Each community and agency was given the chance to speak on their biggest challenges related to the Pandemic and how they are effectively meeting these challenges. It was an important opportunity to learn from each other and begin to think about how our communities can work together to tackle our common issues.

Some takeaways:

- Communities are rapidly making changes to better communicate and to reduce exposure. Cities are holding town meetings to receive community input. Many Parks & Rec program have cancelled their spring and summer programs.
- State of Emergencies have been declared. Accommodations to ensure healthy city staff are being made. For example, in Mounds View, Allina has stepped up to be their first responder for medical emergencies, freeing officers to focus on law enforcement & hopefully reduce their risk of exposure. In many places, utilizing skeleton crews is helping to minimize exposure.
- School districts are working through issues, such as distribution of food or keeping in touch with high-risk students. Mental health poses challenges for students and staff members. In contrast, many board and staff members are feeling more connected and are feeling they will have improved in their work post-Pandemic.
- Homelessness is an issue communities are struggling with. How can we work together? Call legislators to let them know how important this is for funding.

Donate or help at food shelves.

In a crisis such as this, the purpose and mission of RCLLG is more important than ever – to foster cooperation among Ramsey County units of government thereby increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of public service delivery! This discussion gave us ways that we can be stronger together through common purpose and collective action. Thank you to those of you who attended!

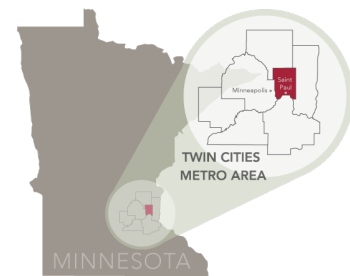
Visit our website to read the meeting notes!

Ramsey County COVID Policy Action Group (PAG) Updates

Debrief: The 12-member **Policy Action Group (PAG)**, formed to manage policy issues and ensure rapid and long-term response in Ramsey County, has been operating since March. Read more about them in our [first newsletter](#).

Agenda Item Updates

Waivers: The Governor's recent Executive Order provides [waivers](#) in Human Services, Workforce Solutions and Corrections, and CMS. A subcommittee is assessing which could be permanent waivers. Sen. Abeler said the plan is to get 60-120 extensions so that they remain in place for aid to residents. An Operations Committee is being established to assess best programs and how to get them permanently added and extended.



Homelessness and Respite Care: At Mary's Hall, there are 60 people getting respite and care who are COVID positive or systematic. Staff and beds are needed. There are 88 encampments in St. Paul with 150 people, and consequently, letters have been sent to the Governor to request assistance in managing the homeless population. After hours of planning dialog, the question is whether the State can offer funding.

Youth in Homelessness: Another question being asked is whether the number of school-aged youth is increasing. There are 30 youth in downtown St. Paul 16-24 years old. The family shelter remains full. There are another 12 families are in hotels. How can Emergency Management help in managing assistance for safety? The goal is to assist with CODE Enforcement due checks on encampments with a wellness check to see if there are appropriate supports for those people.



Economic Development: The [St. Paul Bridge Fund](#) is a resource to help small businesses with less than 10 employees who can't get approved for loans and grants. Many business in Ramsey County are eligible. A program similar to Hennepin County's, which includes assistance for minority owned business, is trying to be built.

PAG is in the process of seeing how businesses can work together to help re-open

more doors, such as offering each other technical assistance, HR and accounting support.

New initiatives are posted on Ramsey County's [website](#). PAG plays a role in many of the articles you see here.

What's New In Lauderdale?



Producing Ventilators: Lauderdale headquartered Twin Cities Die Castings Co. was selected by GM and Ventec for “Project V.” Project V’s goal is to produce ventilators needed by hospitals due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The company will [manufacture](#) 20 different magnesium and aluminum components for the ventilators.

Celebrating Graduates: The City of Lauderdale has six Roseville Area High School graduates that won’t get to share in the usual pomp and circumstance of graduation, but their accomplishments are not forgotten. Details about each graduate are going out to the community along with a mailing address so residents can send notes of congratulations and encouragement. Additionally, each graduate will receive a City of Lauderdale sweatshirt to remember their hometown as they enter the next phases of their lives.



Beating Boredom!

A New Activity Every Day: Roseville [Parks and Recreation](#) invites you to join them “At Home With Roseville Parks & Recreation,” an online series of engaging posts and daily activities. Each day features a different post around a theme. "On Mondays we offer a Weekly Challenge; on Tuesdays tune in for Health/Wellness. On Wednesday we offer a special Youth Activity, and Thursdays it's Story Time. Fridays are a mystery - Mystery Friday, a day where you can expect the unexpected." Read more [here](#).





GERVAIS MILL SCAVENGER HUNT

Ice Cream for Your Efforts? In an effort to keep kiddos (and adults!) creative, the city of Little Canada has provided various recreational [activities](#), from coloring pages to scavenger hunts. Complete the Gervais Mill Park scavenger hunt and a Culver's ice cream cone token will be mailed to the

address! Along with these activities, City Staff is looking forward to starting a Geo-cache program this Summer, as well as running the Farmers Market, which will be operating under social distancing guidelines.

Creating a Better Park: The City of Little Canada is beginning a unique and innovative master planning process for [Pioneer Park](#), one of the City's premier parks. They are partnering with the University of Minnesota's Resilient Communities Project (RCP) program. This program will give students the opportunity to apply their knowledge, insights, and skills to a real community project while working with city staff in multiple different disciplines. RCP has a track record for bringing innovative ideas and solutions to the table, gathering and analyzing data, and sparking community discussions, which will be instrumental in the process of creating a park plan in Little Canada that will be used to help make long-term decisions and provide direction of the future of the park. The City is planning to move forward with the park planning & community engagement process later this summer and into the fall.



Adopt-A-Tree Update

Happy belated Arbor Day! COVID-19 changed their plans, but didn't stop their [event](#). City crews delivered 50 trees to North St. Paul city neighbors. The trees even came complete with planting instructions.



Read Ramsey County's Monthly Newsletter:



May 2020 newsletter: COVID-19 update, open spaces, job...

Coronavirus/COVID-19 update- Outside activities - Job seeker assistance- Mental Health Awareness Month- Vote by mail in 2020- Foster Care Awareness Month- Road projects- Upcoming events- In the news Ramsey County government remains open and we...

[Read more](https://content.govdelivery.com)
content.govdelivery.com

**Wondering how you can
volunteer during this crisis?
Here's some ideas:**

- *Volunteer at a Food Shelf*
- *Create Crafting Packs for Residents*
- *Make Ear Savers for Face Masks*

Volunteer Info



We want to hear from you!

***Have a story? Find out what your community is doing to handle the
COVID-19 Pandemic and let us know.***

Contact us at RCLLG@mngts.org.

*If you have any questions about RCLLG, your membership, or news listed above, please
email RCLLG@mngts.org.*

Visit the RCLLG website and follow us on social media!

Visit Our Website



Ramsey County League of Local Governments | www.mngts.org/rcllg