

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
PHILADELPHIA CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**DIRECTIVE ADDRESSING REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR
REGISTERED COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS IN CONNECTION
WITH THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

On March 16, 2020, as part of a series of emergency declarations and orders, the Mayor and Health Commissioner issued an Emergency Order Temporarily Prohibiting Operation of Non-essential Businesses to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19. On March 22, 2020, as part of a series of emergency declarations and orders, the Mayor and Health Commissioner issued an Emergency Order Temporarily Prohibiting Operation of Non-essential Businesses to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 (“Emergency Order”), which was approved as a regulation of the Board of Health on March 26, 2020 (effective March 27, 2020) . The Philadelphia City Planning Commission recognizes that the COVID-19 Pandemic is unprecedented. The City’s top priority is maintaining public health and the safety of all Philadelphians and those who work and invest in the City. Consistent with the Emergency Orders and the City’s general plan of operations during the emergency, certain activities of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission (“PCPC”) have been suspended, and their offices closed to the public.

Pursuant to PCPC Regulation 12.3.1.1, applications to register as a Registered Community Organization (“RCO”) must be submitted between June 1 and June 30 of each year. Also pursuant to this regulation, many currently registered RCOs would have their registration lapse if applications to renew their registration are not submitted at the end of the two-year

period of registration ending this June, and if the City takes no action. We understand that many RCOs may encounter hardships in submitting RCO applications to renew registration, likewise, the City will experience challenges in completing review of applications during this period on account of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Pursuant to the authority provided by PCPC Regulation 12.3.1.1, I therefore provide notice that:

1. The Registration Period for all currently registered RCOs that are required to submit applications to renew their registration between June 1, 2020 and June 30, 2020 (“Affected RCOs”) shall be extended by One Year to June 30, 2021; PCPC will not begin to review such renewal applications before June 1, 2021 and the current registration of Affected RCOs shall not expire until June 30, 2021.
2. The registration period for applications to be recognized as an RCO for organizations not currently registered is extended to August 14, 2020.
3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Executive Director of the PCPC retains the authority to extend the registration period for all applications if circumstances caused by the Covid-19 emergency warrant such extension; in the event that the Executive Director exercises that authority, an additional declaration of same shall be posted on the PCPC website.
4. Nothing herein shall be construed to waive the authority of the PCPC to suspend or revoke the registration of any RCO, pursuant to the Philadelphia Zoning Code, and the applicable rules and regulations of the PCPC.

Dated: May 20, 2020



Eleanor Sharpe
Executive Director, Philadelphia City
Planning Commission