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—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—
CITY OF CHAMBLEE STATEMENT ON COVID-19

Recently, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak a pandemic. Within the last 24 hours, we heard the message from President Donald Trump and Governor Brian Kemp and saw the cancellation of numerous events and the postponement of professional sports seasons.

We continue to see data that the risk of coronavirus to most of the public is low. Most people who contract the virus will have symptoms that may resemble a cold or the seasonal flu. However, there are members of our society that are at risk. As the national conversation has discussed “social distancing,” it is important to note the intent of this policy is to limit exposure to slow the progression of the virus. By slowing the progression, we hope to prevent an overload on our area medical facilities and prevent a cluster of affected individuals that could have a severe impact on a localized area.

City staff have been monitoring the national situation and meeting regularly to determine the best way we can support the national goal of slowing the progression of the virus and our city goal of ensuring our workforce is continuously staffed at sustainable levels to provide essential services. In consideration of recent developments, the city is taking the following measures to support these goals:

- All special events scheduled within the next 30 days, such as the Atlanta United Watch Party and Chamblee Restaurant Week, are cancelled. These events will be rescheduled for later in the year, if possible.
- All public gatherings, such as Chamblee 101, Police Cadet classes, electronics recycling, park clean ups, youth and adult sports and parks and recreation activities or classes, are suspended for 30 days beginning at the close of the day on Friday, March 13, 2020. We will evaluate holding these gatherings and provide an update by April 10, 2020.
- Walk-in visitors to city offices are discouraged to limit the opportunity for large groups to congregate.
- Applications are requested to be submitted electronically, online or by mail. The online portals for each are located here:
 - Alcohol Licensing: <https://www.chambleega.com/148/Alcohol-Licenses>
 - Occupation Tax Renewal: The city is granting a 30-day extension on occupational tax renewals. Please pay these online or by mail.
 - Instructions for online payments:
<https://www.chambleega.com/149/Occupational-Tax-Certificates>

- Building Permits and Zoning Applications: chambleedevelopment@chambleega.gov ; some permits may be submitted online: <https://talktomycity.com/search/Cha01>
- Open Records Requests Portal: [https://chambleega.govqa.us/WEBAPP/rs/\(S\(lopwk5xpwwucxteaw4dgxkvf\)\)/sup_porthome.aspx](https://chambleega.govqa.us/WEBAPP/rs/(S(lopwk5xpwwucxteaw4dgxkvf))/sup_porthome.aspx)
- Onsite fingerprinting will be discontinued for permits. The city is implementing GAPS for your fingerprint needs. <https://www.aps.gemalto.com/index.htm> . We expect this to be operational by March 20th.
- If you need to meet with city staff, you may contact staff members directly or make an appointment through info@chambleega.gov. The city offers conference calls and video calls as an option. If you need to meet with Police department staff, please contact Julie Shrader at 470-395-2479 or email her at jshrader@chambleega.gov.
- City staff will not meet with individuals who have symptoms of the seasonal flu or Coronavirus.
- All walk-in criminal history/background checks will be suspended until further notice.
- Environmental Court will be held on March 16th at 2:30PM. All other Municipal Court Sessions scheduled for the remainder of March and April will be rescheduled. Individuals who are scheduled for these sessions will receive further instructions by mail.
- City Council, Downtown Development and other City Commissions and committees will go on as planned. You may watch City Council meetings online the day after the meeting on the city's YouTube Channel, **Our Chamblee**. The city is reviewing options for live streaming these meetings at a future time.

The city is taking these steps to help protect all populations within our community while also balancing the need to keep our doors open to provide city services. We will continue to monitor the situation and may take further actions if necessary. The CDC, Georgia Department of Health and county health offices are your best source of information about the virus.

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Located just 14 miles from downtown Atlanta, Chamblee is a vibrant urban city with a diverse community and international flair. The City of Chamblee began as a small rail town and was incorporated in 1908. It has grown to more than seven square miles and nearly 30,000 residents. Chamblee is home to a heavy rail MARTA station, a historic downtown and Antique Row, the vibrant Buford Highway Corridor, DeKalb-Peachtree Airport (PDK), the Centers for Disease Control and a thriving business community with a unique sense of entrepreneurship and optimism. Visit www.chambleega.gov for more information.