revised

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City opens COVID-19 information hotline

March 26, 2020 – ROCHESTER, MINN. – As community members continue to have questions about COVID-19 resources, the City of Rochester is opening a new call center.

The City of Rochester COVID-19 Information Hotline will open at 9am on Saturday, March 28 and will continue into the foreseeable future. Every day from 9am to 9pm, including weekends, the hotline will be staffed by employees from the Rochester Public Library.

The number for the hotline is 507-328-2822.

"Library staff are accustomed to answering community members' questions, and even though the library has been closed, we have a crew of staff working from home to answer phone calls, texts, emails, and online chats," says Karen Lemke, Head of Marketing and Community Engagement at the library. "Information Hotline staff will either be able to locate the information requested or direct callers to the appropriate organization or person."

Call center staff will be available to answer questions about COVID-19 response efforts and resources in the community. Community members can also access the city's COVID-19 webpage to find information and other links to helpful information. The site can be accessed at: rochestermn.gov/covid19.

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NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC CHESTER **EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS** Stay at Home Executive Order 20-20 Effective March 27 — April 10 **City of Rochester** Declaration of Local Emergency Issued March 17, 2020 Olmsted County **Public Health Emergency** Issued March 17, 2020 Minnesota Peacetime State of **Emergency EM-3453** Issued March 13, 2020 National Emergency **Concerning Novel Coronavirus** Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak Issued March 13, 2020 **LOCAL ACTIVATIONS** City of Rochester **Emergency Operations Plan** Joint Information Center (JIC) City of Rochester Emergency Operations Center (EOC) **EOC STRATEGY** Ensure Community Lifelines **EOC OBJECTIVES** Continuity of Operations Timely Community and Teammate Communication **Economic Stability** Lifelines enable the continuous safety or economic security.

ROCHESTERMN.GOV/COVID19