Local State of Emergency Declaration

A State of Emergency is hereby declared in the City of Ithaca for a period of time beginning at 5pm on the date of _______, 2020 and continuing in effect for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days and ending at 5pm on the date of _______, 2020.

The State of Emergency has been declared due to emergency conditions produced by the public health crisis arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic threatens to overwhelm the capacity of our nation’s hospitals, posing a dire threat to the health of many. As directed in conformance with the health recommendations and orders of county, state and federal authorities, the near-complete stoppage and isolation of numerous aspects of our society have also caused great harm to our financial well-being, housing security, and our very social fabric. Such conditions threaten or imperil the public health and safety of the citizens of this municipality.

As Mayor, I have exercised the authority given to me under New York State Executive Law, Article 2-B, to take steps to preserve the public safety and hereby render all required and available assistance vital to the security, well-being and health of the citizens of the community.

Signed:

_______________________________
Svante Myrick
Mayor of the City of Ithaca

Date
Local Emergency Order

I, Svante Myrick, the Mayor of the City of Ithaca, in accordance with a declaration of a State of Emergency issued on ________, 2020, and pursuant to Section 24 of the State Executive Law, hereby order, notwithstanding local law to the contrary, and until further notice, the establishment of the Rent Forbearance Commission for the City of Ithaca (the “Commission”). The Commission shall be comprised of five members appointed by the Mayor, including a Chair selected by the Mayor, and will include three City renters and two City landlords.

The Commission shall be empowered and directed, subject to applicable state and federal law, to institute systems and rules for the forgiveness of rent and the extension of leases for those tenants in the City of Ithaca otherwise in severe jeopardy of homelessness as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission shall account for all available sources of rental assistance, including programs recently adopted by the City, when defining “severe jeopardy of homelessness” for purposes of this order. The Commission shall also make recommendations to City government for funding allocations that could reduce or eliminate the need for rent forgiveness.

This order is effective immediately and shall apply until removed by order of the Mayor.

Signed this ________ day of ________, 2020
at ____________ o’clock, in Ithaca, New York

Signed: ________________________________
          Svante Myrick
          Mayor of the City of Ithaca

Witness: ________________________________
Name & Title: ___________________________