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Mayor Joe Hogsett Announces Rent Deferral Program for City Market Tenants

INDIANAPOLIS – Today, Mayor Joe Hogsett announced that the City of Indianapolis has offered a two-month rent deferral for all tenants in the main hall of City Market. The City is the owner of the historic property, which has been a hub for entrepreneurship and culinary innovation for more than a century. The City Market is home to more than two dozen small businesses and, due to COVID-19 restrictions, market merchants are experiencing a significant loss in revenue. Today’s announcement lightens the burden for these local entrepreneurs, while serving as a model for other landlords in the community.

“In this time of uncertainty, we must all be willing to do our part to come together as one city and lift up those in need,” said Mayor Joe Hogsett. “That’s why I’m proud that the City of Indianapolis – as landlord to these small businesses – is in a position to offer this flexibility in support of their continued success. It is my hope that we will continue to see other landlords, businesses, and institutions do what they can to ensure our community’s best days are yet to come.”

All merchants in the main hall of City Market will have the opportunity to defer up to two months of rent and pay the funds over the remainder of their lease. No additional fees will be charged, and the tenants will not accrue interest on the deferral.

This announcement follows the City of Indianapolis and Indy Chamber’s decision to pivot the focus of the Business Ownership Initiative (BOI) toward emergency assistance for small businesses. Through free one-on-one business coaching and access to current and anticipated loan capital programs, expert coaches will help guide entrepreneurs and small business owners through the uncertainty this pandemic has caused.

In addition, the City of Indianapolis and Indy Chamber are working to help businesses navigate the submission process for the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan program. These loans have been used in previous disaster circumstances to provide small businesses, agricultural cooperatives, and nonprofits affected by disaster with loans to meet working capital needs or normal business operating expenses through the recovery period. More information on this process can be found at response.indychamber.com.

Impacted residents and affected workers seeking additional services during the pandemic outbreak should visit the city’s COVID-19 resource guide, which can be viewed at



indy.gov/covid. The mobile friendly site connects individuals, students, and families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with community resources. Spanish speaking residents can view the Resource Guide [here](#). Individuals who are unable to navigate the city's website can call 317-3274MAC, Monday- Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to talk to a customer service representative.

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