



# Takoma Park City Council Work Session – June 2, 2021

## Agenda Item 6

### **Work Session**

Rescission of Emergency Ordinance 2020-4 Regarding City Manager Authority

### **Recommended Council Action**

Consider rescission of Emergency Ordinance 2020-4

### **Context with Key Issues**

On March 11, 2020, the City Council adopted Uncodified Emergency Ordinance 2020-4 to ensure the continued day-to-day operations of the City government and to confirm the City Manager's authority to take all appropriate and reasonable actions necessary during the COVID-19 pandemic to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the City's residents.

With the availability of vaccinations, new guidance by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, actions by Governor Hogan easing mask requirements and capacity limits, and accommodations of the City government to revised health protocols, it is the sense of the Council that such additional authority is no longer required. This ordinance therefore rescinds Ordinance 2020-4.

### **Council Priority**

Mitigate the Impact of COVID-19 on the Community and City Operations  
Engaged, Responsive, Service-Oriented Government

### **Environmental Considerations**

There is no environmental impact of the rescission of Ordinance 2020-4.

### **Fiscal Considerations**

There is no fiscal impact of the rescission of Ordinance 2020-4.

### **Racial Equity Considerations**

There is no race equity impact of the rescission of Ordinance 2020-4.

### **Attachments and Links**

- Draft Ordinance
- [Ordinance 2020-4](#)

1 Introduced By: \_\_\_\_\_  
2  
3

4 **CITY OF TAKOMA PARK**  
5 **MARYLAND**

6  
7 **UNCODIFIED EMERGENCY ORDINANCE**  
8 **2021-XX**  
9

10 **An uncodified Ordinance whereby the City of Takoma Park rescinds**  
11 **Uncodified Emergency Ordinance 2020-4.**  
12

13 **WHEREAS,** since March of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has required the City to alter the  
14 way in which it operates; and  
15

16 **WHEREAS,** on March 11, 2020, the City Council adopted Uncodified Emergency Ordinance  
17 2020-4 to ensure the continued day-to-day operations of the city government  
18 and to clearly identify the authority of the City Manager as already defined in  
19 the City Charter; and  
20

21 **WHEREAS,** Uncodified Emergency Ordinance 2020-4 confirmed the City Manager’s  
22 authority to take all appropriate and reasonable actions necessary to prevent  
23 and/or reduce the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the efficient operation  
24 of the City’s government in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of  
25 its residents; and  
26

27 **WHEREAS,** since January of 2021, COVID-19 vaccinations have become widely available  
28 to which residents of the City have availed themselves; and  
29

30 **WHEREAS,** on May 13, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released  
31 guidance permitting fully vaccinated individuals to resume activities they did  
32 prior to the pandemic and announced that fully vaccinated individuals are no  
33 longer required to wear masks, absent any law or rule to the contrary; and  
34

35 **WHEREAS,** on May 15, 2021, Governor Larry J. Hogan, Jr., ended the statewide mask  
36 mandate and lifted all capacity limits and restrictions, citing increased  
37 vaccinations and decreased cases of COVID-19 across the State; and  
38

39 **WHEREAS,** although Governor Hogan renewed the State of Emergency on May 12, 2021,  
40 it is the sense of the Council that City operations are returning to a level  
41 commensurate with that which existed prior to the pandemic; and  
42

43 **WHEREAS,** Uncodified Emergency Ordinance 2020-4 permits the Mayor and Council to  
44 rescind, modify, or extend the same by a majority vote of those present; and  
45  
46

47 **WHEREAS,** to the extent that Uncodified Emergency Ordinance 2020-4 provided the City  
48 Manager with additional authority, it is the sense of the Council that such  
49 additional authority is no longer required; and  
50

51 **WHEREAS,** the City Manager still possesses the authority enumerated to the position in the  
52 City Charter; and  
53

54 **WHEREAS,** the City still encourages individuals to observe all necessary health precautions  
55 to prevent and or reduce the potential of spreading COVID-19 regardless of  
56 whether they are vaccinated.  
57

58 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF**  
59 **TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, THAT** the Mayor and Council hereby rescind Uncodified  
60 Emergency Ordinance 2020-4 as the circumstances surrounding its enactment since have subsided  
61 to a degree in which Uncodified Emergency Ordinance 2020-4 is no longer necessary.  
62

63 THIS ORDINANCE, WHICH IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, IS ADOPTED BY THE  
64 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF MAY,  
65 2021, BY ROLL-CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:  
66

67 AYE:  
68 NAY:  
69 ABSTAIN:

70