

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date:	May 4, 2020
Action Required:	Ordinance Enactment
Presenter:	Todd D. Divers, Commissioner of the Revenue John C. Blair, II, City Attorney
Staff Contacts:	Todd D. Divers, Commissioner of the Revenue John C. Blair, II, City Attorney
Title:	Rental Relief Program Deadline Extension

Background:

Charlottesville City Code Section 25-56 et seq. establishes the City’s Rental Relief for the Elderly and Disabled Persons Program (hereinafter “Program”).

In order to qualify for the Program, individuals claiming the grant must fill out an affidavit on an annual basis with the Commissioner of the Revenue. The affidavit must be filed with the Commissioner of the Revenue by May 1 of each calendar year pursuant to Charlottesville City Code Section 25-59.

Discussion:

On March 12, 2020, the Charlottesville City Council authorized Charlottesville City Manager, Dr. Taron J. Richardson, to issue a Declaration of Emergency due to the potential spread of COVID-19. Subsequent to Dr. Richardson’s Declaration of Emergency, Virginia Governor, Ralph S. Northam, issued a series of Executive Orders implementing social distancing practices across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

On March 16, 2020, the Charlottesville City Council enacted an emergency ordinance to extend Charlottesville City Code Section 25-59’s deadline from May 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020.

Commissioner of the Revenue Todd Divers is requesting that Council enact another emergency ordinance to extend the Program’s deadline from May 1, 2020 to September 1, 2020. Additionally, the ordinance states that no medical doctor’s statement shall be required to accompany the affidavit in 2020.

Alternatives:

The Council could decline to adopt the Ordinance.

Attachments:

Ordinance

**ORDINANCE EXTENDING DEADLINE FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED
INDIVIDUALS TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS PURSUANT TO CHARLOTTESVILLE
CITY CODE SECTION 25-59**

WHEREAS, the Charlottesville City Council authorized Charlottesville City Manager, Dr. Taron J. Richardson, to issue a Declaration of Emergency on March 12, 2020 in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Governor, Ralph S. Northam, issued a series of Executive Orders in response to COVID-19 which implement social distancing practices across the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the effects of COVID-19 have interrupted the practices of many of the City of Charlottesville's residents including the transaction of government business in a timely manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that the deadline for elderly and disabled individuals to submit applications and affidavits to the City for the rent relief program is September 1, 2020 pursuant to City Code Chapter 25, Section 25-59. Notwithstanding the provisions of Sec. 25-59(a), the City's Commissioner of Revenue is hereby authorized to extend the deadline for filing applications and affidavits to September 1, 2020, and no medical doctor's statement shall be required to accompany any affidavit received for this year's rental relief applications.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Charlottesville City Code Section 2-97, this Ordinance was passed with the requisite four-fifths votes necessary to adopt an Ordinance on the date of its introduction.