



Good evening. According to the Rutherford Health Department, as of 3:00 pm today, the total number of COVID-19 positive cases reported in Rutherford since March 18th remains at 196.

Earlier this evening, the Council voted to give the Borough more flexibility with how and when streets are closed in order to facilitate outdoor dining and shopping. Rutherford has a great history of planning outdoor events that benefit our residents and businesses. With this new ordinance, a decision to close streets can be made by the Borough and Police Chief within 12 hours of the event, however we will aim to provide 24 hours notice whenever possible. Of course, the weather will be a major factor in these decisions which is why the flexibility to make last minute decisions is necessary. The streets eligible for closure are Park Ave from the Library to Ames Ave and Union Ave from Santiago Ave to Beech Street.

No permit fees will be charged to businesses seeking to operate outdoors, however they will be required to fill out a [temporary outdoor food and retail license](#) and adhere to the [Governor's Executive Order 150](#) which details specific regulations. Both of these documents can be found on the Borough's website. Additionally, a decision regarding the potential opening of the Farmer's Market has been moved to July as state guidelines are still being determined.

I'd like to address the protest which took place yesterday. It was an incredibly moving day and an important one in the history of Rutherford. It made me proud to not only be the Mayor of Rutherford, but a lifelong resident. The estimated 1,500 people who marched should be proud of the way your voices peacefully came together as one.

This will be our last regularly scheduled COVID-19 related update. The Council and I are grateful to the community for being courteous and responsible throughout these past three months. Rutherfordians have been a shining example of how citizens should conduct themselves during difficult times and I know we will continue to be responsible as life slowly resumes a sense of normalcy.

On behalf of the Council, I'd like to thank our Borough employees who stepped up and adjusted to changes in their roles and responsibilities without complaint. I'd like to thank Chief Russo and the Rutherford Police Department, the Volunteer Ambulance Corps and Fire Department and all first responders for your dedication to our residents. The situation continues to be closely monitored by our Health Department. Our first responders will continue to take all possible precautions when assisting our community.

Lastly, I'd like to thank our residents for their support as we navigated uncharted territory during this pandemic together. We've tried to proactively communicate directly with you and we hope we've been effective in keeping you informed. As Borough officials, we take our roles very

seriously and we will continue to do our best to communicate with you in both difficult times and in good.

Stay safe, stay responsible. Thank you, Rutherford,
Mayor Frank Nunziato