

EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2022-13

I, Melvin Carter III, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, on February 23, 2022, pursuant to Saint Paul Legislative Code Section 13.06, do hereby issue the following Executive Order:

On March 13, 2020, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz issued Executive Order 20-10 Declaring a Peacetime Emergency and Coordinating Minnesota's Strategy to Protect Minnesotans from COVID-19 pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.31, Subd. 2. This Declaration has now expired.

On March 15, 2020, Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter issued an Emergency Declaration in response to the COVID-19 pandemic" pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.29; which the City Council consented to on March 17, 2020. This Declaration has been extended and remains in effect.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to present unprecedented and rapidly evolving challenges to our City. Even though vaccinations have become widely available, it is now recommended that all fully vaccinated individuals receive a booster shot; and serious threats to health and safety of persons and other impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to be felt in the nation and City. The Delta variant is more contagious than previous variants, has been causing more severe illness than prior variants, and fully vaccinated people with Delta variant breakthrough infections can spread the virus to others. The Omicron variant has been spreading faster than any other previous variant. The now 21-month health emergency has impacted the residents and businesses of Saint Paul.

Saint Paul Leg. Code Chapter 13.06(b) provides that, "whenever necessary to meet an emergency ... the mayor may by executive order promulgate regulations ... for which adequate regulations have not been adopted ... respecting the conduct of persons and the use of property during emergencies; the repair, maintenance and safeguarding of essential public services; emergency health, fire and safety regulations; and all other matters which are required to protect public safety, health and welfare in emergencies".

Given limited revenue generation over the past 2 years, limited funds will slow business owners' ability to re-open and/or re-tool to achieve business operations to better their financial situation. Businesses have been further impacted by staffing shortages (e.g. immediate (due to COVID cases) or longer term (due to hiring challenges) and supply chain challenges.

Effective January 19th, the Mayor Signed Executive Order 2022-5 requiring proof of vaccination or negative test result to enter City-licensed businesses who sell/serve food and/or beverages for consumption on premise. In order to assist with any financial impacts of that order, and the impact of the pandemic in general, Mayor Carter intends to reduce license fees for licensed business included in Executive Order 2022-5 in the form of a 25% license fee reduction and 3 months deferral on upcoming renewal payments.

On December 22, 2021, the Council adopted Ord. 21-65 increasing business license fees by 1.5%. Ord. 21-65 which took effect on February 5, 2022 and raised license fees for many of these businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Melvin Carter, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, in an effort to ease the financial burden and aid in the recovery of Saint Paul businesses impacted by Minnesota Governor Walz's Executive Orders, do hereby issue the following Emergency Executive Order:

- License holders for the license types listed below will be given:
 - The 2022 license fee will remain at the 2021 rate for business licenses.
 - A 25% one-time reduction from the 2021 rate as reflected in Chapter 310 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code on their next annual license fees.
 - A one-time, ninety-day extension of the due date for payment of their next renewal license fees for all license holders whose renewal date is before May 1, 2022.

- This Executive Order applies to the following license types:
 - Bowling Centers
 - Cabaret, Dance/Rental Halls
 - Entertainment (A, B, & C)
 - Liquor
 - Microdistillery Cocktail Room
 - Liquor Catering
 - Liquor On Sale (All)
 - Liquor-Outdoor Service Area (Patio & Sidewalk)
 - Malt On Sale (All)
 - Theaters and Movie Theaters
 - Wine On Sale

I FURTHER REQUEST, that the Saint Paul City Council take immediate action by Ordinance to extend this Emergency Executive Order for 1 year so all impacted businesses will have the 2022 license fee set at the 2021 rate, receive a 25% reduction of their next annual license fee, and businesses with annual license fees due prior to May 1, 2022 will receive a ninety-day extension of the next due date of those fees.

Pursuant to Chapter 13 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code, this Executive Order is in immediate effect upon my signature and, if not sooner rescinded or later extended, shall expire at the end of forty (40) days after its effective date or at the end of the declared local emergency to which it relates, whichever occurs first.

Signed: February 23, 2022



Mayor Melvin Carter III