



# TOWN OF FALMOUTH

Office of the Town Manager & Selectmen

59 Town Hall Square, Falmouth, Massachusetts 02540

Telephone (508) 495-7320

Fax (508) 457-2573

## UPDATED MESSAGE TO FALMOUTH BOARDS/COMMITTEES

April 9, 2020

Dear Chair of Falmouth Board/Committee,

Back on March 13, I transmitted a request to you regarding the postponement of meetings given the COVID-19 pandemic. Since that time, we have received a series of Emergency Orders from Governor Baker regarding the curtailing of normal, non-essential operations and related matters. This Order does not expire until May 4.

Given this extension of emergency circumstances, I am now respectfully urging all Falmouth **non-regulatory** Boards and Committees to further delay your monthly meetings until the month of **June**. This continues to be consistent with the cautions and safeguards being directed throughout the Commonwealth. It is unclear at this point whether or not this May 4 date may be further extended by the Governor in some form. As you know, any gathering of ten persons or more is in violation of Governor Baker's Emergency Order and would be encouraging unnecessary travel. My understanding is that the temporary variance given to the Massachusetts Open Meeting Statute during this State Emergency only applies to **regulatory** Boards. In discussions with Town Counsel and others and given limitations in IT support staffing, this is defined to include Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Health and Zoning Appeals.

We appreciate your understanding and support for this request, and thank you for passing this along to your fellow Committee members. I am reminded by the BOS Chair that you are encouraged to stay in contact with your respective BOS Committee liaison for any issues which may arise. Thank you.

Julian M. Suso

Falmouth Town Manager

Cc Falmouth Board of Selectmen  
Town Counsel  
Staff Members  
Media contacts