



December 8, 2020

Governor Tim Walz  
Speaker Melissa Hortman  
Majority Leader Ryan Winkler

Minority Leader Kurt Daudt  
Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka  
Senator Minority Leader Susan Kent

Dear State Leaders:

We are jointly and urgently calling upon you to **act quickly toward an agreement that will provide immediate economic relief for our small businesses and communities**. Rochester and Olmsted County's business and service sector has been hit due to the pandemic, in a similar fashion to other communities around the state.

The entities signed below have come together to work jointly since the pandemic in a local, coordinated effort titled "Rochester Ready" to ensure a safe and resilient recovery for the area. This unique public-private partnership group has assisted and communicate with local businesses and the community. We encourage you to also come together as state leaders during this extremely challenging and dynamic time to assist communities and businesses in need.

Local units of governments in our area have thoughtfully and quickly distributed funding received through the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), but much of the programs and assistance provided through that funding will expire at the end of the year. It is important that additional assistance continue into 2021, as the impacts of the pandemic will continue as well.

**Immediate, additional assistance for small businesses that have been impacted by the pandemic and an extension of the unemployment insurance program is critically needed in our community and for the state's economy.**

Sincerely,

*-City of Rochester*

*-Destination Medical Center (DMC)*

*-Diversity Council*

*-The Greater Rochester Convention and Visitors Bureau  
and the Mayo Civic Center (Experience Rochester)*

*-Mayo Clinic*

*-Olmsted County*

*-Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce*

*-Rochester Area Economic Development, Inc. (RAEDI)*

*-Rochester Downtown Alliance (RDA)*

**cc:**

Senator David H. Senjem  
Senator Carla Nelson  
Representative Tina Liebling  
Representative Nels Pierson

Representative Duane Quam  
Representative Duane Sauke  
Senator Eric Pratt  
Representative Tim Mahoney