

MAYOR
Keith Pekau

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December 10, 2020

Paul O'Grady
Orland Township Supervisor
14807 S. Ravinia Ave.
Orland Park, IL. 60462

Dear Township Supervisor O'Grady:

Thank you for your interest in assisting with vaccine distribution. Throughout the pandemic, the Village of Orland Park did not waiver in its commitment to serve the Orland community. When others abandoned their responsibilities, the leadership of the Village of Orland Park and other local leaders took all necessary measures to safely stay open in order to continue to provide health, safety and welfare services to our residents.

As you recently discovered, the Orland Park Police Department in collaboration with the Orland Hills Police Department, Orland Fire Protection District and the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) has a certified pharmaceutical distribution plan, which includes Orland Park, Orland Hills and portions of unincorporated Cook County. This collaborative effort is meant to save and protect lives through the planning, creation, and implementation of a pharmaceutical distribution dispensing site in the event vital medications are needed to be provided to the public at locations outside of healthcare facilities. This certified plan has been in place since 2005 and is on file with the CCDPH.

As part of this certified plan, periodic evaluation of needs and walk-throughs are run to test the ability of the plan to distribute emergency medication to the community. The most recent evaluation and walk-through occurred at the Orland Park Village Hall Complex on March 24, 2020, three days after the first Illinois Stay-at-Home order was mandated. The Stay at Home order, which went into effect on March 21, 2020, stated that all individuals must stay at home, with exceptions for essential activities, essential government functions, and essential businesses and operations. The health, safety, and welfare of our residents is undoubtedly an essential governmental function.

If the activation of the pharmaceutical site occurs, a considerable amount of staffing will be needed. The Villages of Orland Park and Orland Hills and the Orland Fire Protection District have committed to provide the needed staffing. However, we welcome other public

and private partners that are prepared to assist with staffing when or if the activation of our distribution site is authorized.

As you are aware, the Orland Township office is incapable of serving as a mass vaccine distribution location, especially in light of the Township's decision in the past few weeks to relinquish most parking, and office space, to the Illinois Secretary of State for an Express Driver's License Facility. Traffic backup occurs at the Township's Secretary of State Express Driver's License Facility with just a few dozen nonresidents and residents frequenting the facility. A mass vaccine distribution facility will need to be equipped to serve tens of thousands of people.

Because of the leadership and foresight of the Village of Orland Park, the Village of Orland Hills, the Orland Fire Protection District and the Cook County Department of Public Health, I am confident that we continue to be up to the challenge during these unprecedented times. Please let me know how many employees the Township can commit to helping us in this endeavor, as well as the primary point of contact, so that our Police Department can plan accordingly. I welcome your interest in participating in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith Pekau". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Keith Pekau
Mayor, Orland Park

Cc: Orland Park Village Board
George Koczwar, Orland Park Village Manager
Joseph Mitchell, Orland Park Chief of Police
Michael Schofield, Orland Fire Protection District Chief
Kyle Hastings, Mayor of Orland Hills
Jacob C. Vandenberg, Mayor of Tinley Park
John Bryk, Superintendent of Orland School District 135
Dr. James Gay, Superintendent of Consolidated High School District 230