

NOTICE

Republican Caucus statement regarding the extension of County Executive emergency powers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 30, 2020

WHO: Michael J. Gingell, Republican Caucus Chairman

WHAT: Since the beginning of COVID-19, the Republican Caucus has supported the emergency activities and emergency spending requests of the Oakland County Executive. This support included, when requested, an extension of the emergency powers of the County Executive beyond the original end date.

We appreciate the County Executive and his team. We recognize all that they have done during this crisis and commend them for the way they have handled this challenging situation.

At this time, however, the Republican Caucus does not see the need to continue to abdicate the legislative powers of the Board of Commissioners by further extending the emergency powers of the County Executive. The COVID-19 operations within the county have normalized as we are now several months into the pandemic. It is our opinion that government works best when there are the appropriate checks and balances embedded in the process.

We are concerned about the decisions and processes related to stabilizing and re-opening the economy in Oakland County. In particular, we would like to have the oversight that the Board of Commissioners is statutorily responsible for relative to the utilization of the \$219 million in funds recently received by Oakland County from the Trump administration. We want transparency and accountability in Oakland County government.

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