

City of Dallas Family:

While this week has not been easy with the unrest we see in our community and across the world, I could not be prouder to serve the City of Dallas at the precipice of great change. Whether you have been a part of our employee family for a long time, or are just beginning your journey, this is where your role is so important – to push for change from the inside out. Believe this – your input is important to leaders across our organization.

In addition to residents, most important is your health and safety as our City of Dallas family. As always, our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is available 24/7 for confidential assistance, crisis support and more. You and your family at home are urged to make use of this tool for your well-being regardless of whether or not you are enrolled in other benefit programs. Call the EAP toll-free number, 877.622.4327.

The news is changing fast every day. Below is an update on a few key actions from the past week.

On Monday, the City Council's Public Safety Committee was briefed on the new One Dallas: R.E.A.L. Change Action Plan, immediate police reforms implemented by Police Chief Renee Hall. Additional long-term changes will be shared with the City Council soon.

During Wednesday's City Council meeting, mid-year budget adjustments allowed an important opportunity to discuss budget priorities as we head into the final quarter of our fiscal year which will end on September 30.

You may hear terms like "defund the police" or read media reports that Dallas City leaders are considering it. Let's be clear – it is not the intention of leadership to dismantle law enforcement. What City leaders – and many in our community – are exploring is alternatives which could provide infrastructure and social programs helping those disproportionately impacted by crime. On next Wednesday, the Mayor and City Council will hold a budget workshop. I am eager to have this conversation and look forward to working with City leaders on these initiatives. I hope you will follow our discussion at www.bit.ly/cityofdallastv.

Our other major issue is COVID-19. Unfortunately, this week we saw more than 300 new cases for the first time. Independent of any government orders or regulations, know that the threat of COVID-19 is as great as ever, so we must remain vigilant. Our Return to Work action team continues work to reopen City facilities as soon and as safely as possible, but adjustments may be needed. Please talk with your supervisor or manager regarding operational guidelines for your department.



I know we are all tired. You are doing more than you ever thought. You are looking for light at the end of the tunnel. Public service is not for the weak – and your work does not go unnoticed. I personally thank you for all you do to move this city forward. We will get there as One Dallas.

In the Spirit of Excellence!!

Broadnax

City Manager