



VILLAGE OF
BURR RIDGE
A VERY SPECIAL PLACE

7660 County Line Rd. • Burr Ridge, IL 60527
(630) 654-8181 • Fax (630) 654-8269 • www.burr-ridge.gov

Gary Grasso
Mayor

Karen J. Thomas
Village Clerk

J. Douglas Pollock
Village Administrator

June 10, 2020

Dear Governor Pritzker:

Since your initial Stay At Home Order issued March 21, we have endured much and learned more about COVID-19. Your challenge to Illinoisans to “flatten the curve” is now a well-known phrase in our lexicon. You have challenged Illinoisans to practice social distancing, stay and work from home when possible, and wear face coverings. Illinoisans have led the nation by example in complying with your order and health recommendations to battle the virus.

Diligently following the recommendations of health boards and scientists, the public faced down the novel coronavirus, flattening and bending the curve. That is in great part due to the leadership of your administration and the Illinois Department of Public Health. But while laws and Executive Orders objectively define when risks become too great, Illinoisans implicitly recognize when risks related to certain behaviors become too great and adjust their behavior as needed.

As the number of active COVID-19 cases, testing positivity rate, and need for healthcare resources all continues to rapidly decline, further and immediate reopening of the economy seems in order. On Monday, June 8, the elected Burr Ridge Board of Trustees and I publicly discussed and supported the concept of allowing restaurants in the Village to offer both indoor and outdoor seating on June 19 (Father’s Day weekend) prior to the Northeast Region’s move to Phase 4. All safety guidelines that are currently mandated outdoors will remain in place indoors, which include table distancing, a party maximum of six persons, reduced capacity up to 50% of normal seating, as well as the enhanced requirement of no air conditioning to cut down on added exposure risk. People now recognize that dining out can be done safely, despite the fact that COVID-19 remains a presence in our lives.

I have repeatedly made the point that leadership includes participating in the lost art of compromise. You represent all Illinoisans and have a unique opportunity to reinvigorate Illinoisans for their efforts by further opening restaurants June 19 for the Father’s Day weekend. As Mayor of the Village of Burr Ridge, I am requesting that the State permit the lawful operation of both indoor and outdoor dining at all restaurants around the state as set forth here for the Father’s Day weekend.

Sincerely,

Gary Grasso, Mayor