

CITY OF KINGSTON

Office of the Mayor

mayor@kingston-ny.gov



Steven T. Noble
Mayor

April 3, 2020

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

During these extraordinary and unprecedented times, elected officials must pursue any and all measures that will allay the fear and anxiety of our citizens and provide some semblance of relief. I am writing to respectfully request you issue an Executive Order pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 925-a (2), authorizing the City of Kingston to extend the interest and penalty free payment period of the current year property tax installment due April 30, 2020 by twenty-one (21) days.

My office has been inundated with calls from constituents, expressing concerns about their inability to pay their taxes on time as a result of the hardships they face due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The declaration of a statewide disaster emergency pursuant to Executive Order 202, enables local government executives the ability to seek necessary relief for their constituents. Pursuant to RPTL 925-a (2), you have the authority to issue an Executive Order extending the interest and penalty free deadline for the payment of property taxes here in the City of Kingston.

The following is a description of the City's tax collection and periods: City taxes and taxes directed to be levied by the Legislature of Ulster County for county and other lawful purposes in the City of Kingston, of each fiscal year, shall be due and payable in two equal installments. The first installment shall be due within 45 days after tax levy has been set by resolution of the Common Council. For 2020, this date is February 14, 2020. The second installment shall be due within 120 days after the tax levy has been set by the Common Council. For 2020, this date is April 30, 2020. The payments shall be made during any business day at the Comptroller's office. Whenever the last day to pay taxes without penalty falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday of the city, such taxes may be paid without penalty on the next business day. If any installment shall not have been paid when due as herein provided, such installment shall become delinquent. Thereafter a penalty of 2% shall be added to the unpaid balance of such installment for the calendar month or fraction thereof in which said installment was due. Thereafter, a penalty of 6% shall be added to the unpaid installment for the second month or fraction thereof that said installment remains unpaid. Thereafter, a penalty of 1% shall be added to the unpaid installment for each additional month or fraction thereof that said installment remains unpaid.

As I speak for the City of Kingston, I can say with great certainty, the leadership you have displayed to serve and protect New York State citizens during this pandemic has been inspirational and appreciated with tremendous gratitude. I respectfully request the citizens of the City of Kingston be granted an extension to pay the current year property tax installment due April 30, 2020 without interest or penalty until May 21, 2020.

Sincerely,

Steven T. Noble
Mayor
City of Kingston