



My Ward Report for March 23, 2020

Dear Fellow East Siders:

I have attached the Press Release that several of my fellow councilmembers and I sent to the Press late Friday evening, asking the Governor to issue a state-wide moratorium on evictions. If you would like to add your support, please contact Governor Raimondo's office at (401) 222-2080 during office hours or leave a comment on her website (<http://www.governor.ri.gov/contact/>).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Members of the Providence City Council
City Councilwoman Helen Anthony, Ward 2
City Councilwoman Nirva LaFortune, Ward 3
City Councilman Pedro Espinal, Ward 10
City Councilwoman Kat Kerwin, Ward 12
City Councilwoman Rachel Miller, Ward 13

MEMBERS OF THE PROVIDENCE CITY COUNCIL CALL ON THE STATE TO ISSUE A MORATORIUM ON EVICTIONS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

[Providence] First and foremost, members of the Providence City Council would like to thank the Honorable Governor Raimondo for her important leadership as we all try to overcome the coronavirus outbreak. We cannot thank Governor Raimondo enough for her swift and decisive leadership during these trying times and we are thankful for the proactive and aggressive measures she has taken against the transmission and spread of COVID-19.

COVID-19 has had and will continue to have, a devastating impact on children, families, the elderly and businesses in our state. With the directive for restaurants and bars to end dine-in service as well as the surging unemployment claims in Rhode Island, just to name a few, it is clear that our economy and our workers are being severely impacted by this crisis.

As countless of our low-wage workers are being impacted by restaurant and bar closures, the coronavirus will have severe implications on peoples' ability to secure

stable housing, which is crucial to containing the virus, maintaining social distancing and protecting public health.

To that end, an increasing number of towns, cities, and states have taken action to prohibit evictions during the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, anticipating that many tenants could be unable to pay their rent or mortgage during this crisis.

A state-wide moratorium on evictions in Rhode Island will help relieve anxiety to people if they lose income because they get sick, if a family member gets sick, or if their job is impacted by the economic damage COVID-19 is causing.

On behalf of the constituents we serve, we are requesting that the state announce a similar measure and halt evictions amid the crisis. We also implore state and city leaders to do your best to issue a moratorium on evictions that would be in effect for residential tenants who are unable to pay rent as a result of this pandemic.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. We look forward to working together with our state and city leaders to continue to address this crisis and to ensure the safety of the members of our community.

CC: Mayor Jorge Elorza City Council President Sabina Matos

Please feel free to call me at (401) 489-2470, visit www.helenanthony.com, and/or or email me at helen@helenanthony.com with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Anthony". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.