



The September 24th Showcase will connect businesses, customers, and job seekers.

## Business & Community Showcase Rescheduled for September 24th

Rolling Meadows' 2020 Business & Community Showcase, which was originally scheduled for April but postponed due to COVID-19 public health guidelines, will take place Thursday, September 24th, 4:00 – 8:00 pm, at Meridian Banquet & Conference Center (1701 West Algonquin Road).

Companies that previously registered to exhibit at the Showcase have their spots automatically confirmed for the rescheduled event. Businesses that are unable to take part will receive a full refund.

Business Advocate Martha Corner believes the September event will appeal to multiple constituencies:

- **Business owners** looking to connect with customers and/or hire employees.
- **Professionals** who actively engage in business-to-business (B2B) networking.
- **Job seekers** exploring employment opportunities with local businesses.

- **Residents** interested in learning more about products and services offered by community-based companies.

"In light of the pandemic and its impact on businesses across the country, this year's Showcase offers a forum for business leaders to network and forge stronger B2B connections," she explained. "It will also be an excellent opportunity for local companies to connect with potential employees and freelance professionals."

Local business owners and leaders who wish to exhibit at this year's Showcase may register online (\$25) at [www.cityrm.org/728/Business-Community-Showcase](http://www.cityrm.org/728/Business-Community-Showcase).

Even businesses that are not planning to exhibit at the rescheduled event may submit marketing materials and/or information on potential job openings at their respective companies.

For more information, contact Martha Corner at [cornerm@cityrm.org](mailto:cornerm@cityrm.org) or 847-870-9004.

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### J.C. Restoration, NLNW Named AABE Honorees

Congratulations to Rolling Meadows' own J.C. Restoration for being named an Annual Awards for Business Excellence (AABE) honoree by the *Daily Herald Business Ledger* – one of 21 area companies and business organizations recognized in 2020.

**Next Level Northwest**, a regional business incubator established by Elk Grove Village, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Rolling Meadows, and Schaumburg, also earned AABE recognition.

Profiles of each AABRE honoree are available at [www.dhbusinessledger.com](http://www.dhbusinessledger.com).

## 'We're in This Together.' Business Owners Share Experiences, Ideas for Weathering COVID-19

As businesses across the country temporarily closed or introduced limited operating hours in response to COVID-19 "stay-at-home" guidelines, several Rolling Meadows business owners began sharing their experiences with each other and brainstorming ideas for moving forward.



### Started Small...

Jacob Rodriguez, owner of Grande Jake's (5500 New Wilke Road), says he first reached out to Rep's Place (3200 Kirchoff Road) owner Mike Reppe with an idea to support one another.

"It started off as us simply buying our employees lunch from one another's restaurants," Mr. Rodriguez explained. "From there, we started discussing the challenges local business owners currently face – how to take care of our employees, reduce operating costs, and other concerns."

### ...Then Grew

Mr. Rodriguez and Mr. Reppe were far from the only business owners talking to each other. Across Rolling Meadows, local businesses are engaging each other as partners – not competitors – to help get through these unprecedented times.



"As a business community, we need to be working together. I'm glad to share my 20-plus years of experience with others who may benefit from it," Mr. Rodriguez added. "I'm also very thankful for ideas others share with me that I would not have thought of on my own."

### Evolving Social Media Tools

He cites the "Rolling Meadows Small Business" Facebook page as an example of ways local businesses can connect with, and help, one another. Originally launched in 2016 as a way for businesses to promote their goods and services to residents, Mr. Rodriguez says the page is also an additional communications channel for business owners.

Access the page at [www.facebook.com/groups/401601693508543/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/401601693508543/).



## City Extends Business Fee Deadlines, Expands Online Payment Capabilities

With COVID-19 shelter-in-place policies affecting local business revenue, Rolling Meadows has extended the payment deadlines for food & beverage taxes and liquor licenses, Finance Director Melissa Gallagher reports.

### Lighten the Burden

"We realize our business customers are facing unprecedented uncertainties and want to work with them to lighten the burden as much as we can," Gallagher explained. "The City has also temporarily waived financial penalties for bills that are paid after their due date, and are offering businesses an opportunity to pay specific fees over a period of time."

Companies that would like to explore possibilities for adopting an extended fee payment schedule may contact Gallagher directly ([gallagherm@cityrm.org](mailto:gallagherm@cityrm.org) or 847-870-9041).

### Expanded Online Payment Options

With City Hall closed and social distancing guidelines in place, the Finance Department has updated the City website to let customers make online payments for a variety of transactions, including real estate transfers, building permits, local motor fuel taxes, and food and beverage taxes.

Find further details and instructions on the website's Online Payments page ([www.cityrm.org/146/Online-Payments](https://www.cityrm.org/146/Online-Payments)).



## Connect! Post Your Job Openings on Rolling Meadows' Website

Managers looking to fill vacant positions at their respective companies often rely on staffing firms or online tools such as LinkedIn, Indeed, and ZipRecruiter to attract qualified candidates. But there's another (free) option available for local businesses to post job openings: Rolling Meadows' website.

It takes just a few minutes and a few simple steps to take advantage of this complimentary service:

1. Visit [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org) and select "City Employment Options" on the left side of the page.
2. Select "Manage Job Postings" located at the top right corner of the page.
3. Create an account (or log into an existing account) to develop and post your job listing. *Note: users may also log in using Facebook or Yahoo! mail.*

Listings do not require review or approval by City Hall and are posted immediately. Businesses that use the City's website to post job openings are responsible for their removal once those positions have been filled.

Improper or offensive posts are not allowed and will be taken down.

## On Tap: 2020 Capital Improvements

Despite ongoing economic uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Rolling Meadows is proceeding with a series of infrastructure improvement projects that had already been scheduled – and funded – for 2020.

Water main upgrades taking place across the City this spring and summer will replace decaying, undersized cast iron lines with stronger and safer materials in the following areas:

- Arbor Drive (Phase II).
- Plum Grove Drive & South Street.
- Weber Drive/Waverly Park (Phase II).

Upgrading these underground lines will improve water capacity, fire protection coverage, and system reliability for residents and businesses.

City officials last year issued municipal bonds to raise the funding necessary to complete these and other important water main replacement projects within a two-year timeframe.

**"The 2019 bond issue helps Rolling Meadows manage costs more effectively on taxpayers' behalf."**

The bond issue helped Rolling Meadows improve

services to local businesses and area residents while avoiding excessive upfront costs, maintaining fund balances, and managing costs more effectively on taxpayers' behalf.

Stay updated on all construction projects – including planned street resurfacing and underground utility upgrades – taking place throughout Rolling Meadows.

Visit [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org) and click the "Construction Projects" link.

### Connect with us:

 [www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows](https://www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows)

 [www.twitter.com/@CityofRM1](https://www.twitter.com/@CityofRM1)

 Search "City of Rolling Meadows"

 [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)





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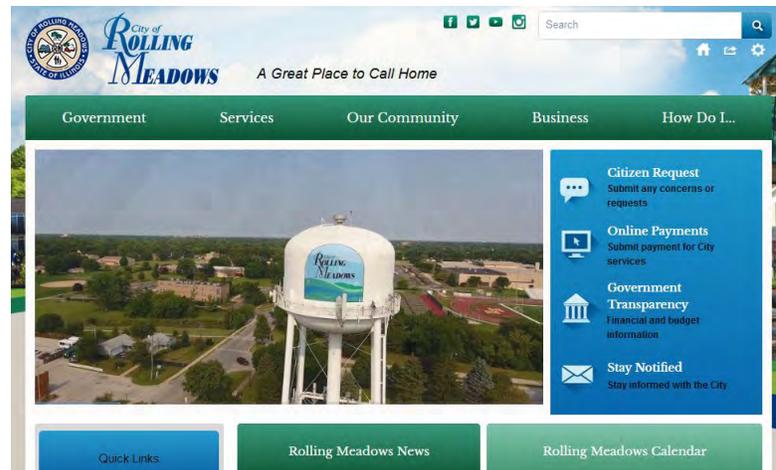
City Manager's Office .....847-394-8500  
 Finance Department .....847-394-8500  
 Fire Department (non-emergency).....847-397-3352  
 Police Department (non-emergency).....847-255-2416  
 Public Works Department.....847-963-0500  
 Community Development Division .....847-506-6030

## City Website Delivers COVID-19 Business Information, Links to Financial Assistance Resources

Rolling Meadows' website offers local businesses convenient access to resources designed to help offset the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Visit [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org) for:

### Help for Small Businesses

- Learn more about disaster assistance and loans available through the U.S. Small Business Administration.
- Review and apply for services available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.
- Find links to industry-specific relief programs and those offered at the county and state levels.
- Access resources through the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).





**Community Resources**  
 Current City Operations with State and County Information  
[Read on...](#)



**Essential Business Listing and Hours**  
 As a courtesy the City of Rolling Meadows has compiled a list of local essential businesses and their hours.  
[Read on...](#)



**Small Business Help**  
 For our Small Businesses who may need some help  
[Read on...](#)



**Mobile Food Pantry**  
 First 200 registered people, until supplies last  
[Read on...](#)

A sampling of resources available to support local businesses is accessible on the City's homepage.

### Updates on State and Local Precautionary Measures

- Review the latest updates on Illinois' COVID-19 response (<https://coronavirus.illinois.gov>).
- Access information on Rolling Meadows' services and operations ([www.cityrm.org/796/COVID-19-Coronavirus-Information](http://www.cityrm.org/796/COVID-19-Coronavirus-Information)).

### Essential Business Information & Hours of Operation

- Access updated listings of local grocery stores and their hours of operation.
- Review a complete listing of all "essential" businesses, including banks, gas stations, pharmacies, healthcare and social service providers, hardware stores, and more.

Local businesses may also contact Business Advocate Martha Corner ([cornerm@cityrm.org](mailto:cornerm@cityrm.org) or 847-870-9041) for additional guidance and information on available programs.