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April 21, 2020

To the Citizens of Hinesville,

The City of Hinesville will continue to abide by Governor Kemp's orders. Actions taken by the City prior to the state stepping in were made in an attempt to mitigate the situation created by COVID-19 and prevent loss of life in Hinesville. We have enforced his orders to the best of our ability and within the parameters set for us at the state level.

With this new order, the Governor's team has seen fit to rescind some of the stricter economic measures put in place to prevent the spread of disease across the state. However, we remind citizens this does not mean that the ALL CLEAR has been given. The Shelter-In-Place order is in effect until next Thursday (April 30) at 11:59 p.m. and does not lift when businesses begin to reopen on Friday - and not every business is cleared to reopen. There are still restrictions and measures that must be met by each reopened business in order for them to operate and, until we receive the ALL CLEAR from the state, we will continue to enforce and check for adherence to those measures. Additionally, gatherings are still not permitted until the order lifts. We know it is tempting, but our social lives will still be there when this is over. So please stay home unless you absolutely need to.

Our concerns are the same as everyone - the safety and wellbeing of our citizens. Tough decisions were not made lightly in those early weeks and just because the decisions are being made at a higher level and coming down the pipeline does not make them any easier to swallow or enforce. What we do not want is our citizenry to forget the measures and fall back into their habits, just for this situation to arise again down the road. So, we ask Hinesville residents to continue to follow the warnings and look out for themselves, their families and their neighbors and we will continue to soldier through this until it is over.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Allen Brown".

Allen Brown
Mayor, City of Hinesville