

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MADISON COUNTY COMMISSISONERS DECLARE LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY

In response to the national COVID-19 health emergency and in accordance with the guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control, and Governor Holcomb, Madison County Commissioners Vice President Mike Gaskill today signed a local disaster emergency. The local disaster emergency will stay in place for seven days until ratified by a majority of the Madison County Commissioners in a public meeting. That ratification is expected to occur on Monday.

“Following advice of local health officials, we are declaring a local travel advisory and a suspension of all non-essential travel in the County.” Phipps said. “This order will allow local health and law enforcement to coordinate to the fullest extent permitted by law. We defer to our Health Officer, Dr. Wright, chairman of the board of Health Dr. Abbot, and Health Department Administrator Stephenie Grimes in advising us as a county and a community of how we can each do our part to stem the tide.”

The local disaster emergency declares a travel watch, which restricts all non-essential travel in Madison County. The declaration encourages employers that can to permit teleworking, directs all citizens, businesses, and employers in Madison County to follow the Orders and guidance of the Madison County Health Department, and modifies access to the Madison County Government Center.

As Madison County Health Officer Stephen J. Wright, M.D. has said: “We will fight this disease where ever it is and we will never, never let down our guard until we have a vaccine and effective treatments to quell its onslaught. COVID-19 will probably be a permanent part of our disease paradigm going forward; but if we can mitigate its effects through treatments and vaccines then we will know that we have done all that we can. But for now our only recourse is to stop the spread by whatever means we have. That means reduce person to person contact by whatever means necessary. Please bear with us and support us in these efforts.”

For a copy of the declaration as signed by Vice President Phipps, please visit www.madisoncounty.in.gov.