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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Northampton County and the City of Easton hosted a Virtual Town Hall event on April 2nd for businesses affected by the Coronavirus outbreak. Representatives from the County, State and Federal government explained what relief programs are available to small businesses with the 380 people who registered for the event.

Lamont McClure moderated the call. Speakers included Mayor Sal Panto, Alicia Karner, Director of DCED of the City of Bethlehem, Representative Susan Wild, State Representative Robert Freeman, State Representative Steve Samuelson, State Senator Mario Scavello, Michael Kane, Deputy Director of Eastern PA District US SBA, and Carol Kilko, Deputy Secretary of the Office of Business Financing PA DCED.

Northampton County has put \$250,000 into a COVID-19 Emergency Relief Loan Fund for small businesses. Applicants can apply for a maximum amount of \$15,000 per business. The loans will have a 0% interest rate over a twelve-month term. Rising Tide will process the loan applications and distribute the money.

To help both businesses and individual homeowners, Lamont McClure has extended the 2% rebate for Northampton County Real Estate Taxes until May 31st.

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