

PKfs. 6-05-2020



June 5, 2020

Mayor and City Council
City of Ames
515 Clark Ave.
Ames, IA 50010

Dear Honorable Mayor Haila and City Council,

I am writing today to ask again that you would consider letting our Food Vendors and Drink Vendors return to the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market. They are small businesses struggling to survive and need the opportunity to vend their products in a safe and monitored environment.

I was on a state wide meeting of Managers from all over Iowa this week. We were the only market in this meeting of all sizes that were not allowing food trucks to be a part of the Market as the Governor does not restrict the Food Trucks from being a part of the Farmers Markets. I realize this is a big decision and as always, we appreciate and respect your decisions as we move forward through this uncertain time. I believe that all of our food and drink vendors would be very respectful of the restrictions they would need to abide by in order to be able to vend at the Market.

We would provide signage in front of all food vendors, letting the customers know that they are not permitted to eat or drink within the Market perimeters.

The Vendors themselves would package all items in packaging that is meant for to go meals.

I feel that our Stop, Shop & Go theme in the Market is being followed these last 3 weeks. People are coming to shop and then moving on. We have not had any issues in the past weeks.

As a part of the Iowa Board of the Iowa Farmers Market Association, we are very hopeful that on or around June 17th, that the Governor of Iowa will allow us to add more vendors back to the mix of our Market. If the Governor allows us to move forward to adding vendors that do not currently fall under the current guidelines, we would ask that you would also consider letting us allow them to be a part of our Ames Main Street Farmers' Market.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectively,

Lojean Petersen

Ames Main Street Farmers' Market Manager