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Mayor Announces the Rollback of Planned Furlough Days Which Would Have Reduced Public Services

Today, Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway announced that she would no longer require City staff to participate in mandatory furloughs that were anticipated as part of the cost saving measures necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This means the City of Madison can avoid the service cuts that accompany furloughs, and the City is better positioned to support private-sector recovery.

“I want to thank Senator Tammy Baldwin and Congressman Mark Pocan for their consistent efforts to support the cities, towns and villages who have been on the front lines of the pandemic response, while also suffering tremendous revenue loss,” said Mayor Rhodes-Conway. “With federal aid on the way, my top priority is to make sure there are no further reductions in the critical services our residents depend on.”

The recently enacted American Rescue Plan includes a wide-array of programs focused on addressing the public health and economic impacts of the pandemic in an attempt to jumpstart widespread economic recovery.

The plan also provides \$362 billion to state and local governments for direct relief for COVID-19 costs, revenue losses, and economic recovery. An anticipated \$50 million will be coming to Madison over two years, which will help offset a significant portion of the City’s lost revenue due to the pandemic.

Given the direct federal aid that the City anticipates receiving through the federal plan, there is no longer a need for most City agencies to continue Workshare plans after March 14th. Federal workshare participation has saved the City an estimated \$500,000, but has resulted in the reduction of some City services.