

Despite working through all aspects of race planning and with the intent to continue forward with the Youngstown Marathon and Half Marathon scheduled to take place in late October, it is with heavy hearts that we must announce that the races will not continue in person.

We were not able to obtain permission from the City of Youngstown to run the race through their jurisdiction. Municipalities must follow Covid-19 regulations and it is through no fault of the City of Youngstown itself that we cannot move forward. After looking at other course options including working around unexpected construction within Mill Creek Park due to a road washing out, it was decided by the Youngstown Marathon Board that the in-person event would have to be cancelled.

Participants will be contacted about their options which include deferring their entry fees to 2021, receiving a full refund of their entry fee money, or switching to a virtual event. Participants that want to continue their training that have already paid for their event can switch to the virtual and will receive a refund for the difference in registration price.

Additionally, those wanting to train for a virtual full or half marathon will have the option to register for those distances for a fee of \$35. Links will be found online at [www.youngstownmarathon.com](http://www.youngstownmarathon.com) to register for the virtual option. Virtual participants will receive a shirt and finisher medal.

Participants that are registered for the IRunYoungstown Series will be receiving further details and instructions on how to complete their series with planned upcoming events.

Details for the Youngstown Marathon's 5k event are still being discussed. It is our sincere hope that we are able to provide this distance to our participants but with the ever-changing regulations around the current Covid-19 pandemic our progress is limited to a smaller window of time to work through those decisions. We will do our best to keep everyone updated as soon as we can with the details.

We sincerely appreciate our presenting sponsors, Chemical Bank/TCF, Mercy Health, and Second Sole, for their continued support through this difficult time. We also appreciate the patience of everyone that has registered for the event, that has been an ambassador or pacer for the event promoting us clear up to today, our volunteers, our sponsors, and everyone that kept waiting for us to make an official declaration of our plans. We hope that you will choose Youngstown Marathon for 2021 and that your family and friends stay healthy and safe in the coming months.