



City of Sonoma

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting: City Council - Mar 16 2020

Department

Administration

Staff Contact

Cathy Capriola, City Manager

Agenda Item Title

Adopt a Resolution Ratifying the Proclamation of Local Emergency Issued by the Director of Emergency Services Due to COVID-19 and Authorize \$100,000 from Emergency Reserves for Community Support and Resiliency Initiatives

Summary*Emergency Proclamation*

In a time of disaster, the City's Municipal Code §2.36.060 empowers the City Manager as Director of Emergency Services, the ability to issue a proclamation of emergency. Due to the COVID-10 virus pandemic, this proclamation was issued on March 12, 2020. Under the law, such a declaration only lasts for seven days, unless it is ratified by the City Council.

At this time, the City Manager believes that, given the circumstances, it would be wise to continue the efficacy of the declaration. It is agendized for the City Council to ratify.

The Cal. Gov't Code section that governs the subject emergency declaration is 8630. It provides:

- (a) A local emergency may be proclaimed only by the governing body of a city, county, or city and county, or by an official designated by ordinance adopted by that governing body, and
- (b) Whenever a local emergency is proclaimed by an official designated by ordinance, the local emergency shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven days unless it has been ratified by the governing body, and
- (c) The governing body shall review the need for continuing the local emergency at least once every 30 days until the governing body terminates the local emergency, and
- (d) The governing body shall proclaim the termination of the local emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

Assuming County, State and Federal declarations of emergency stand, the City Council will need to ratify the local emergency declaration again no later than April 15, 2020.

\$100,000 Emergency Community Support and Resiliency Initiatives

In light of this unprecedented global emergency of immense economic and health impacts, there may be actions that the City wants to take to support the community's resiliency. While specific ideas are not all known at this time, some ideas include rental assistance to help prevent evictions and further homelessness, neighborhood connectivity programs, business support, and other community outreach. Staff recommends that this funding be authorized for the Director of Emergency Operations to be able to utilize with advice from a Council Ad-Hoc Committee.

The City currently has \$1.5 million in the Emergency Reserve. The City does not have the financial resources to be a foundation to provide extensive grants and loans, but there may be initial needs that we can facilitate or help initiate. It is important to have some resources available while also balancing that the City's revenues are likely to be dramatically impacted and we will need reserves to backfill loss of revenues.

Recommended Council Action

Adopt the resolution.

Alternative Actions

Council discretion.

Financial Impact

Specifics are known at this time. Immediately, the City will have costs associated with additional janitorial costs, supplies, technology and remote work implementation and staffing assistance to respond to this pandemic emergency. These costs will be collected and are outside of the \$100,000 Emergency Reserve for Community Support and Resiliency. The revenues for the City will be impacted due to the restrictions on travel and social gathering. More costs may develop as this pandemic unfolds.

Environmental Review

- Environmental Impact Report
- Negative Declaration
- Exempt
- Not Applicable

Status

- Approved/Certified
- No Action Required
- Action Requested

Attachments

[Resolution of Emergency Proclamation](#)
[City of Sonoma Proclamation Local Emergency Declaration](#)

Alignment with Council Goals:

Not Applicable

Compliance with Climate Action 2020 Target Goals:

N/A

CC:

n/a

City of Sonoma

RESOLUTION #____ - 2020

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONOMA
RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY
SERVICES DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, Section 2.36.030(8) of the Sonoma Municipal Code identifies the City Manager as the Director of Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.36.060 of the Sonoma Municipal Code empowers the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when the said City area is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the City Council is not in session; and

WHEREAS the Public Health Officer and the Director of Emergency Services of Sonoma have made findings that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the County and declarations of emergency have been approved by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the current status in Sonoma County and the City of Sonoma are:

1. The COVID-19 virus has been determined to be a pandemic by the World Health Organization and all levels of government have proclaimed emergencies and are moving forward with critical public action actions.
2. There are three cases of coronavirus in Sonoma County. All patients are in isolation rooms and being treated in local hospitals.
3. Sonoma County has declared a Local Emergency and a Local Public Health Emergency and have mobilized staff throughout the County to assist in keeping our community safe and prevent the spread of coronavirus.
4. The City has been working and communicating with County Public Health and Emergency Management staff to prepare for extended public health actions.
5. The City has been working and communicating with our local hospital, school district and health clinic.
6. The local economy is seeing the impact of actions related to new public health guidance on social gathering and mass gathering actions.
7. This COVID-19 emergency is different from what we have experienced as a community and there is the need for extreme flexibility and mechanisms to minimize social interaction and gathering at this time.
8. Conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the City caused by the threat of COVID-19 that will impact significant City and community operations, including critical public infrastructure and services, and which will require the provision of additional public safety and emergency services; and

9. The financial impacts to the City's revenues, the international and national economy in general, the City's based tourism economy, businesses and our community members are significant; and
10. The aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of a Local Emergency to enable the City of Sonoma and other local government entities to adequately plan, prepare and preposition resources to be able to effectively respond to the threat posed by COVID-19, and to provide information to City of Sonoma residents and visitors of the threat posed by COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the City Council was not in session at the time the proclamation had to be made.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council to ratify the proclamation of the Director of Emergency Operations, a copy of which is attached hereto, that a local emergency now exists throughout the City; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of California with a request that he proclaim a state of emergency for Sonoma, and further that the Governor request a Presidential Proclamation; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency services organization of this City shall be those prescribed by law, by ordinances, and resolutions of this City and by the Sonoma Emergency Operations Plan; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that \$100,000 from the Emergency Reserve is authorized for Community Support and Resiliency Initiatives by the Director of Emergency Services in consultation with an appointed City Council Ad-Hoc Committee.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a Regular Meeting of the City Council on March 16, 2020.

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Logan Harvey, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebekah Barr, MMC, City Clerk



CITY OF SONOMA

PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, California Government Code sections 8558 and 8630 empower the City of Sonoma to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the City is affected or likely to be affected by conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the City's territorial limits; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.36.030(B) of the Sonoma Municipal Code identifies the City Manager as the Director of Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.36.060 of the Sonoma Municipal Code empowers the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when the said City area is affected by actual or threatened conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the city and the City Council is not in session; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, the County of Sonoma Department of Health Services (County DHS) confirmed two presumptive positive cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Sonoma County;

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, the County DHS confirmed that it anticipates additional cases in Sonoma County from non-travel, community transmission due to the increase of these cases in the country, combined with the worldwide uncontrolled spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, at or about 10:00 a.m. on March 2, 2020, the Sonoma County Health Officer declared a Local Health Emergency pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 101080 due to the potential introduction of COVID-19 in Sonoma County; and

WHEREAS, at or about 10:00 a.m. on March 2, 2020, the County of Sonoma Director of Emergency Services proclaimed a Local Emergency due to the threat of COVID-19 in the County; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization made the assessment that #COVID19 can be characterized as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, On March 12, 2020, the California Department of Public Health issued a guidance document advising that in order to protect public health and slow the rate of transmission of COVID-19, certain gatherings should be postponed or canceled throughout the remainder of the month of March, including large gatherings of 250 people or more, smaller gatherings that do

not allow social distancing of a minimum of six feet per person, or gatherings with individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services of the City of Sonoma does hereby find:

1. The United States of America has confirmed cases of individuals who have a severe acute respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus ("COVID-19" or "the virus") first detected in Wuhan, Hubei Province, People's Republic of China ("China"). The virus was first reported in China on December 31, 2019. As of March 2, 2020, the World Health Organization ("WHO") has reported more than 3,000 deaths stemming from approximately 89,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and the virus is present in 67 countries. The number of confirmed cases has continued to escalate dramatically over a short period of time; and
2. WHO officials now report that sustained human-to-human transmission of the virus is occurring. Transmission from asymptomatic individuals has been documented. Suspected community transmission of the virus is occurring in the United States. Although the majority of individuals infected with COVID-19 recover from the disease without special treatment, there is significant potential for serious infection and death; and
3. On January 30, 2020, WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak a public health emergency of international concern, and on January 31, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency for the United States of America; and
4. The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has determined that the virus presents a serious public health threat, requiring coordination among state and local health departments to ensure readiness for potential health threats associated with the virus; and
5. The County's Public Health Officer has found that the conditions constituting a threat to community health may be present in the County warranting a proclamation of a Local Health Emergency; and
6. Conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the City caused by the threat of COVID-19 that will impact significant City and community operations, including critical public infrastructure and services, and which will require the provision of additional public safety and emergency services; and
7. The financial impacts to the City's revenues, the international and national economy in general, the City's based tourism economy, businesses and our community members are significant; and
8. The aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of a Local Emergency to enable the City of Sonoma and other local government entities to adequately plan, prepare and preposition resources to be able to effectively respond to the threat posed by COVID-19, and to provide information to City of Sonoma residents and visitors of the threat posed by COVID-19; and

9. At the time of this Proclamation, the City Council is not in session (and cannot immediately be called into session).

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency exists throughout the City of Sonoma, commencing on or about the time and date of the signature of the Director of Emergency Services below.

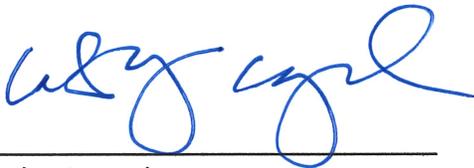
IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the Director of Emergency Services shall be those prescribed by state law and the ordinances and resolutions of this City, and by the City of Sonoma's Emergency Operations Plan.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that this Proclamation shall remain in effect for the next seven (7) days, and hereafter by ratification of the City Council.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this declaration be forwarded to the Governor of California with a request that the Governor of the State of California proclaim a State of Emergency due to the threat posed by COVID-19 in the State of California; include the City of Sonoma in any emergency declaration by the State; ensure the City of Sonoma is included in any emergency declaration that may be issued by the President of the United States of America; waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; and make available California Disaster Assistance Act and State Private Nonprofit Organizations Assistance Program funding.

SIGNED AND SUBSCRIBED at 4:00 p.m. this 12th day of March 2020.

BY:



Cathy Capriola,
Director of Emergency Services