

**CITY OF SEAL BEACH
PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, City of Seal Beach Municipal Code Section 3.25.020 empowers the City Manager as the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when said city is affected or likely affected by a public calamity and the City Council is not in session, and:

WHEREAS, conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the health and safety of persons and property have arisen both Internationally and within the United States as a result of the introduction of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), a novel communicable disease, which was first detected in December 2019; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has spread globally to over 70 countries, infecting more than 118,000 persons and killing more than 4,200 individuals worldwide. Due to the expanding list of countries with widespread transmission of COVID-19, and increasing travel alerts and warnings for countries experiencing sustained or uncontrolled community transmission issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), COVID-19 has created conditions that are likely to be beyond the control of local resources and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat; and

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2020, the CDC confirmed the first case of local person-to-person transmission of COVID-19 in the United States and this case raises the possibility of community transmission occurring in the general public. Also on February 26, 2020, the County of Orange and County Health Officer declared a local emergency to prepare in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seal Beach has a large population of residents who are at high risk for COVID-19, as approximately 40% are over the age of 65; there are three long-term care facilities and group homes, as well as the Leisure World retirement community located within the City; and the close proximity to both Long Beach and Los Angeles County where there have been confirmed cases of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has determined that there is an imminent threat to the public health from the introduction of COVID-19 in the City of Seal Beach; and

WHEREAS, the City's ability to mobilize local resources, coordinate interagency response, accelerate procurement of vital supplies, use mutual aid, and seek future reimbursement by the State and Federal governments will be critical to successfully responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, these conditions warrant and necessitate that the City of Seal Beach declare the existence of a local emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, I hereby proclaim the existence of a local emergency pursuant to Seal Beach Municipal Code Section 3.25.020 and hereby direct the Emergency Organization of the City of Seal Beach to take the necessary steps for the protection of life, health and safety in the City of Seal Beach and the region more broadly.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED, that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Emergency Organization of the City shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and resolutions of the City; and

I FURTHER DIRECT, that all City Departments shall review and revise their department emergency and contingency plans to address the risks COVID-19 poses to their critical functions in coordination with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM); and

I FURTHER DIRECT, that all City Departments shall track costs for staffing, supplies, and equipment related to COVID-19 preparation and prevention and forward that information to the Finance Department; and

I FURTHER DIRECT, that OEM shall coordinate Citywide planning, preparedness and response efforts regarding COVID-19 with the County Public Health Agency, the Orange County Office of Emergency Services, and the Operational Area (OA).

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED, that the Local Emergency is in effect immediately and that widespread publicity and notice shall be given said Declaration through the most feasible and adequate means of disseminating such notice throughout the City.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED, that a copy of this Proclamation be forwarded to the Orange County Office of Emergency Services to be forwarded to the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services requesting that the Director find it acceptable in accordance with State law; that the Governor of California pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, issue a proclamation declaring an emergency in the City of Seal Beach; that the Governor waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; that response and recovery assistance be made available under the California Disaster Assistance Act; and that the State expedite access to State and Federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs.

Dated: 3/13/2020

By: Jill R. Ingram
Director of Emergency Services

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