

City of College Place, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 21-058

EMERGENCY DISASTER DECLARATION: COVID-19 OUTBREAK

A DECLARATION of an emergency,

WHEREAS, a disaster has been declared in City of College Place at 6 p.m. on March 17th, 2020 and, assistance is needed; and

WHEREAS, on January 31st, 2020, the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public emergency for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) beginning on January 27th, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on February 29th, 2020 a patient was transported by ambulance from Umatilla County into Walla Walla County and hospitalized with a presumptive positive case of Novel Corona Virus 2019 (COVID-19), and Walla Walla County Department of Community Health, after further testing, was able to confirm the COVID-19 diagnosis in coordination with the Washington State Department of Health and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and

WHEREAS, on March 13th, 2020 the Walla Walla County Board of Commissioners declared a disaster pertaining to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-COV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, the CDC identifies the potential health threat by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as "high", and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

WHEREAS, under the above referenced conditions there is substantial likelihood of risk of health of the citizens of College Place; and

WHEREAS, in the judgement of the undersigned, extraordinary measures are required to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of College Place's residents and may go beyond the capability of local resources; and

WHEREAS, the conditions stated above constitute an emergency for the City of College Place, necessitating activation of the City of College Place Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and

the utilization of emergency powers granted pursuant to RCW 38.52.070 and CPMC 2.64 (Ordinance No. 18-017).

WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee issued "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" proclamations in response to the COVID-19 situation via Proclamation No. 20-25 on March 23rd, 2020, followed by addendums on April 2nd, 2020, April 27th, 2020, May 4th, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee issued a "Safe Start, Stay Healthy" County-by-County Phased Reopening on May 31st, 2020, followed by addendums on July 1, 2020, July 7, 2020, and July 24, 2020;

WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee has issued numerous emergency proclamations relating to governmental operations, suspending or delaying implementation of rules and laws and providing relief to those suffering from the impact of the pandemic, which can be accessed at governor.wa.gov/office-governor/official-actions/proclamations;

WHEREAS, Resolution #20-009 was set to expire on November 23rd, 2021; and

NOW THEREFORE,

I, Norma L. Hernandez, Mayor, declares as follows:

Section 1. There is a Declared Emergency in and to the City due to the incident. The City will follow directives and guidance given within Governor Jay Inslee's proclamation 20-25.4 "Safe Start, Stay Healthy" County-by-County Phased Reopening and all current and future proclamations issued due to the pandemic.

Section 2. Pursuant to the emergency declared at Section 1, all emergency powers and authority set forth in RCW 38.52.070, COOP, and CPMC 2.64 are hereby invoked, (including without limitation to the right to enter into contract, employ temporary workers and incur obligations without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law, except mandatory constitutional requirements).

Section 3. City Departments are authorized to enter into contracts and incur obligations with City Council approval necessary to combat this emergency, protect the health and safety of persons and property, and provide emergency assistance to the victims of this disaster.

Section 4. The City will closely adhere to Walla Walla County Department of Community Health/State of Washington Department of Health rulings and guidance pertaining to this disaster.

Section 5. That the City Administrator, upon the recommendation of the Human Resources Manager, is hereby authorized to adjust any personnel policies related to leave time, other

benefits or terms and conditions of employment as are reasonably related to provide sufficient staffing during the term of the emergency.

Section 6. City Council and Advisory Commission meetings will be held in adherence to Governor Inslee Proclamation No. 20-28.4 "Open Public Meetings and Public Records Act" and subsequent future proclamations.

Section 7. The Mayor and City Administrator are authorized to request all available state and federal assistance necessary to respond to this emergency.

Section 8. Authorizes the City Administrator and/or designee to participate in the Unified Command meetings of Walla Walla County Community Health & Emergency Management Departments.

Section 9. The Mayor, upon consultation with the Police Chief, Fire Chief, and Walla Walla County Community Health Director as conditions arise, can issue an Executive Order to further regulate practices of our local business community and associates thereof to prevent acts or inactions which endanger public's health and safety, (e.g. anti-hoarding, price gouging prohibitions).

Section 10. This Declaration and Order shall terminate whenever Walla Walla County reaches the end of Phase 4 of the "Safe Start-Stay Healthy" plans and guidance issued in Governor Inslee's Proclamation No. 20-25.4 and no further orders, rules, or law require the City return to full operations as if there were no pandemic.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of College Place, Washington, this 23rd day of November, 2021.

DocuSigned by:
Norma L. Hernandez

Norma E. Hernandez, Mayor

Attest:
DocuSigned by:
Lisa R. Neissl

Lisa R. Neissl, CMC
City Clerk