

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK
JANUARY 11, 2021**

I, Mayor Nancy R. Rotering, do hereby issue this Declaration of Emergency for the City of Highland Park, this 11th day of January, 2021 (“*Declaration*”).

Introduction

The City continues to adapt and respond to the public health disaster caused by COVID-19, a novel severe acute respiratory illness that spreads rapidly through respiratory transmissions.

On January 27, 2020, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) declared a public health emergency for the entire United States of America concerning COVID-19. On March 9, 2020, Governor Pritzker issued a disaster proclamation concerning the spread of COVID-19 in Illinois, and has since issued renewed and additional disaster proclamations that continue in place. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared that the spread of COVID-19 is a global pandemic. On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency concerning the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused extraordinary sickness and loss of life, infecting over 1 million people in all 102 Illinois counties and causing the death of more than 19,000 Illinois residents. WHO has reported more than 85 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 and nearly 1.8 million deaths attributable to COVID-19 globally. The burden placed by the COVID-19 pandemic on City of Highland Park residents, businesses, healthcare providers, and emergency responders remains unprecedented.

On March 14, 2020, I issued an emergency declaration to implement emergency regulations and orders to combat the spread of COVID-19 in the City of Highland Park and to help protect the residents of the City from disease and death (“**March 2020 Declaration**”). The Corporate Authorities of the City have extended the March 2020 Declaration from time-to-time through January 11, 2021, and I have issued several emergency regulations and orders pursuant to my authority under the March 2020 Declaration.

Despite ongoing efforts to contain COVID-19, the virus has continued to spread. In considering the ongoing health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic that continue to be felt throughout the City, it is necessary to issue this Declaration to further combat the spread of COVID-19 in the City, to continue to protect the residents of the City from disease and death, and to provide assistance to City businesses and residents in recovering from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Statement of Authority

This Declaration is issued pursuant to the authority granted to me by: Section 92.105 of “The Highland Park Code of 1968,” as amended; Section 11-1-6 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/11-1-6; and Section 11 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/11.

Declaration

I hereby declare that a state of emergency exists in the City of Highland Park, for the reasons set forth in this Declaration.

Emergency Regulations and Orders

I hereby direct and order as follows:

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1. *Emergency Purchasing.* I order that the City may enter into contracts for the emergency purchase of goods and services that may be necessary for responding to and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Mayor and the City Manager are hereby authorized to execute such contracts in accordance with applicable law.
2. *Emergency Staffing.* This Declaration constitutes a declaration of civil emergency under the City's collective bargaining agreements. Accordingly, I direct the City Manager to implement such emergency staffing protocols and procedures as may be necessary for the preservation of public health and safety, and for the preservation of the health of City employees and the public. Specifically, and without limitation of the foregoing, the City Manager is authorized to: (a) implement alternative staffing protocols, procedures, and shifts for the City Fire, Police, and Public Works Departments; and (b) implement leave benefits and other pandemic-related benefits for City employees, including, without limitation, employees who are not able to work remotely.
3. *Cooperation with Other Government Agencies.* I direct all City officials and employees to take all practicable steps to coordinate the City's resources and emergency operations with the State of Illinois, the County of Lake, and other local governments in and around the City, to best utilize resources of all agencies in the area for the preparation for, response to, and recovery from, the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. *Re-Issuance and Extension of Prior Emergency Regulations and Orders.* All emergency regulations and orders I have previously issued pursuant to the March 2020 Declaration are hereby re-issued and extended through the expiration of this Declaration.

Issuance of New Emergency Orders Pursuant to this Declaration

Pursuant to the authority vested in me pursuant to Section 92.110 of the City Code, I reserve the right to issue additional emergency orders in furtherance of this Declaration; provided, however, I have determined that I will not issue any additional emergency order unless a draft of such order is first presented to the Corporate Authorities of the City for their consideration at a regular, special, or emergency meeting of the City Council. Further, no such additional emergency order shall take effect unless it has first been approved by a majority vote of the Corporate Authorities at a regular, special, or emergency meeting of the City Council.

Notice of any additional emergency order that has been approved and issued will be provided to the City Clerk, posted on the City website, and otherwise provided to the general public as quickly as practicable.

Effective Date and Period of Emergency

This Declaration shall take effect immediately, and shall expire automatically upon the first to occur of: (i) the adjournment of the next regular or special meeting of the Corporate Authorities of the City; and (ii) 11:59 p.m. on the date that is seven days after the date of this Declaration; provided, however, that Corporate Authorities, in their discretion, may extend the duration of this Declaration by a majority vote at any regular, special, or emergency meeting of the Corporate Authorities.

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Signed and sealed with the official seal of the City of Highland Park on this 11th day of January, 2021.

By:



Nancy R. Rotering
Mayor
City of Highland Park



City Seal