



CITY OF IRVINE

**PROCLAMATION OF THE EXISTENCE
OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY
BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
(IRVINE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 4-9-107(A))**

WHEREAS, Irvine Municipal Code Section 4-9-105(A) designates the City Manager as the City’s Director of Emergency Services;

WHEREAS, Irvine Municipal Code Section 4-9-107(A)(1) authorizes the Director of Emergency Services, if the City Council is not in session, to proclaim the existence of a local emergency upon the actual or threatened existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within this City caused by such conditions as, among others, an epidemic;

WHEREAS, conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons have arisen, internationally, within the United States, within the State of California, and within the City of Irvine as a result of the introduction of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), a novel communicable disease, which was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has spread globally to over 70 countries, infecting more than 181,000 persons and killing more than 7,100 individuals worldwide;

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020 the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak a “public health emergency of international concern”;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020 United States Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the United States to aid the nation’s healthcare community in responding to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2020 the CDC confirmed the first case of local person-to-person community transmission of COVID-19 in the United States;

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2020 the Health Officer of Orange County and the Orange County Board of Supervisors determined that there is an imminent threat to the public health from the introduction of COVID-19 and declared a local health emergency;

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California declared a state of emergency in California due to the introduction and spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the WHO elevated the public health emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19 to the status of a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, school districts serving the City of Irvine, including Irvine Unified School District and Santa Ana Unified School District, announced the closure of schools due to COVID-19, effective March 16, 2020.

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Governor of the State of California released statewide guidance, urging the highest risk of population (individuals who are 65 years or older, or have compromised immune system) to self-isolate at home;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the President of the United States issued “The President’s Coronavirus Guidelines for America: 15 Days to Slow the Spread” which recommended, and among other things, stated

- **Exhibiting Symptoms**: “If you feel sick, stay home. Do not go to work. Contact your medical provider.”
- **Children**: “If your children are sick, keep them at home. Do not send them to school. Contact your medical provider.”
- **Tested Positive**: “If someone in your household has tested positive for the coronavirus, keep the entire household at home. Do not go to work. Do not go to school. Contact your medical provider.”
- **Older Persons**: “If you are an older person, stay home and away from other people.”
- **Vulnerable**: “If you are a person with a serious underlying health condition that can put you at increased risk (for example, a condition that impairs your lung or heart function or weakens your immune system), stay home and away from other people.”
- **Young and Healthy**: “Even if you are young, or otherwise healthy, you are at risk and your activities can increase the risk for others. It is critical that you do your part to stop the spread of the coronavirus: (a) work or engage in schooling from home whenever possible; ... (c) avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people; (d) avoid eating or drinking in bars, restaurants, and food courts – use drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options; (e) avoid discretionary

travel, shopping trips, and social visits; (f) do not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.”

WHEREAS, as of March 16, 2020, there were two known and confirmed travel related cases of COVID-19 within the City of Irvine.

WHEREAS, the widespread and community transmission of 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;

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;

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services believes and has concluded that the above-described conditions of extreme peril warrant a proclamation of local emergency; and

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Division 9 of the Irvine Municipal Code and California Government Code Section 8630, it is hereby proclaimed that a local emergency now exists in the City of Irvine and for this emergency, assistance and aid is requested from Federal, State, and the County governance to the City, individuals and businesses affected thereby.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the local emergency shall be deemed to exist until its termination is declared by resolution of the City Council; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Director of Emergency Services or his/her designee make any and all necessary arrangements for the City Council to ratify this proclamation within seven (7) days.

The City Clerk shall certify as to adoption of this proclamation.

PASSED, APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND EFFECTIVE on the 17th day of March 2020.

City Manager / Director of Emergency Services:



John Russo

Date: 17 March 2020

ATTEST:



City Clerk’s Signature