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**CITY OF SPOKANE
SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

**EXECUTIVE DECLARATION OF CIVIL EMERGENCY OR DISASTER
IN THE CITY OF SPOKANE, WASHINGTON**

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane of Spokane County is presently faced with an emergency due to 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, on January 21, 2020, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) has confirmed localized person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in Washington State, significantly increasing the risk of exposure and infection to Washington State's general public and creating an extreme public health risk that may spread quickly; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, DOH confirmed three cases of COVID-19 in Spokane County; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee issued a proclamation declaring a State of Emergency in all counties of the state of Washington in response to new cases of COVID-19 and has subsequently amended his proclamations to prohibit social gathering of over fifty people, closing all public and private schools state-wide, closing restaurants and others social gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the City is following the state Department of Health non-pharmaceutical interventions matrix in characterizing its level of response, and at the direction of the Spokane Regional Health District, are operating under voluntary isolation and quarantine for those who are exhibiting cold or flu-like systems; and

WHEREAS, based on guidance from federal, state, and local public health experts we are urging everyone in the Spokane community to take immediate steps to practice social distancing, including maximizing telecommuting options, embedding social distancing into organizations by postponing non-time-sensitive meetings or conducting them virtually, and minimizing the chances of exposure to anyone with weakened or compromised immune systems; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 related cancellations have created an economic emergency with unprecedented fiscal impacts to our businesses, workers, and municipal budget; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout the United States and Washington State significantly impacts the life and health of our people, as well as the economy of Washington State, and is a public disaster that affects life, health, property or the public peace; and

WHEREAS, SMC 2.04.030 authorizes the Mayor to issue a declaration of civil emergency when there is a threat of death or injury of persons or the destruction of or damage to property requiring extraordinary and immediate measures to protect the public peace, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, an emergency that necessitates utilization of the emergency powers granted pursuant to RCW 38.52 and/or 35A.33; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane has authority, pursuant to RCW 35A.33.080, to make expenditures for emergencies “requiring the immediate preservation of order or public health, or for the restoration to a condition of usefulness of any public property which has been damaged or destroyed by accident, or for public relief from calamity....”; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane has authority, pursuant to RCW 38.52.100(1), “to make appropriations for the ordinary expenses of [the City] for the payment of expenses of its local organization for emergency management”; and

NOW THEREFORE, AS THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SPOKANE WASHINGTON, I DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 – Purpose and Intent.

As a result of the spread of COVID-19 and the impact of the public health, safety and welfare, it is the purpose and intent of this declaration to formally proclaim the existence of a disaster or civil emergency in the City of Spokane.

Section 2 – Emergency Procurement

Pursuant to SMC 2.04.100, the Mayor or her designate, may make emergency procurements consistent with the provisions of SMC 7.06.180.

Section 3 – Emergency Powers under Governor’s Declaration of Emergency or Disaster

Pursuant to SMC 2.04.110 and the proclamation by Governor Jay Inslee of a state of emergency, the Mayor shall have the authority to exercise authority on behalf of the City for all emergency powers set forth in RCW 38.52.070 (2), including those powers set forth in SMC 2.04.110 A.- F.

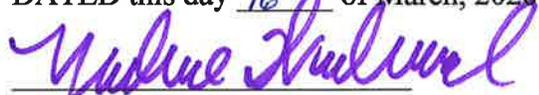
Section 4 - Effective Date.

This Declaration shall be in full force and effect upon signature and shall continue until terminated.

Section 5 – Ratification.

This emergency declaration shall be submitted to the City Council for ratification pursuant to SMC 2.04.060.

DATED this day 16th of March, 2020.



Mayor Nadine Woodward

Attest:

Approved as to form:



City Clerk



Assistant City Attorney

Date of Publication: _____

Effective Date: 3/16/2020