

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-05

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of Ellensburg, Washington declaring an emergency, adopting findings with respect to such emergency, and authorizing such actions as may be necessary to be entered into for addressing the impacts caused by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in Washington state and locally.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for Kittitas County adopted Resolution 2020-42 on March 6, 2020, a “Declaration of Emergency – COVID-19,” based on the high potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 and exposure events which had already occurred in the county; and

WHEREAS, the Kittitas County Director of Emergency Management, Sheriff Clay Myers, as well as Kittitas County Health Officer Dr. Mark Larson, have stated that local resources are or will be overwhelmed and are recommending that the City of Ellensburg declare a state of emergency to assist in managing the impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, the Kittitas County Public Health Department (KCPHD) was notified that a Kittitas County resident has tested positive for COVID-19, and that the results are presumptive positive and now pending confirmatory testing by the Washington State Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, the KCPHD is contacting other individuals who had close contact with the patient, as well as businesses and agencies in the county where the patient visited while infectious; and

WHEREAS, the KCPHD has notified the public in Kittitas County that while the current COVID-19 investigation is ongoing, there is likely community spread of the disease in the county; and

WHEREAS, after careful consideration the Kittitas County Health Officer has recommended testing for all symptomatic persons that had contact with the patient who tested positive for COVID-19, and the amount of testing that will occur will exhaust local resources and personnel which will overwhelm our capabilities; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identifies the potential public health threat posed 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, on February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee proclaimed a State of Emergency exists in all counties in the state of Washington, including Kittitas County; and

WHEREAS, measures must be taken to protect public health, safety and welfare within the City; and

WHEREAS, City Council of the City of Ellensburg has determined that the City's resources are or will be overwhelmed, and the existing conditions warrant the proclamation of the existence of an emergency; and

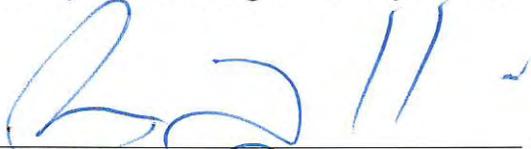
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Ellensburg, Washington, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council finds that the facts set forth in the recital paragraphs of this Resolution support and justify the declaration of an emergency. The Council therefore certifies and declares that a public health emergency exists arising from the COVID-19 outbreak that necessitates the utilization of emergency powers granted under RCW 38.52.070.

Section 2. Pursuant to RCW 39.04.280(1)(e), the City Council hereby authorizes city staff to waive the competitive bidding requirements of Ch. 39.04 RCW and authorizes the City Manager or his designee(s) to execute such contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat such emergency to protect the health and safety of persons and property, and to provide emergency assistance to the victims of this emergency.

Section 3. The City Manager or his designee(s) is authorized to exercise all authority through the issuance of management orders and through the use and direction of City personnel, services, equipment, and operating hours, and additional acts necessary to the management of this emergency.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Ellensburg this 9th day of March, 2020.



MAYOR

Attest:



CITY CLERK