

## DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Nathan West, City Manager of the City of Port Angeles, finds that the following facts exist:

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 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 27, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee signed a Proclamation declaring a State of Emergency exists in all counties in the State of Washington due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the state and directed that the plans and procedures for the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan be implemented; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization publicly characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, Governor Inslee announced a statewide public and private K-12 school closure effective Tuesday, March 17 through April 24, 2020 in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on that same day, the Governor also restricted colleges and universities to on-line only courses; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, the Governor ordered closure of all bars, entertainment, and recreational facilities, limiting restaurants to takeout and delivery service only; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's order also prohibited all gatherings of 50 or more people, and strongly discouraged gatherings of fewer than 50 people unless social distancing measures are implemented; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor further requested that all persons practice social distancing and cancel all unnecessary meetings in order to help prevent the spread of the virus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) released information identifying people over the age of 60 and those with chronic conditions as persons who are more at risk of infection; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and poses a high risk of transmission from person-to-person; and

**WHEREAS**, while as of the date of this proclamation there are no confirmed COVID-19 cases in Clallam County, Port Angeles has a large population of elderly people and others who may be more at risk of infection; and

**WHEREAS**, the economic conditions resulting from COVID-19 closures and restrictions will negatively impact our community, and specifically the City's utility customers; and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining the stability and functions of local government during and after an emergency is critical for city businesses, residents, and the organization; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the public interest to give staff authority to develop and implement economic relief to certain businesses and residents as staff deem fiscally and legally appropriate; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 constitutes an emergency as defined by the City of Port Angeles Municipal Code (PAMC) 2.24.020(B) Emergency and necessitates the utilization of emergency powers granted pursuant to RCW 35A.38.010, and RCW 38.52.070(2); and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the public interest to cancel any unnecessary board and / or commission meetings during the time of emergency;

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**It Is Proclaimed** by the City Manager that a local emergency exists in relation to the COVID-19 response in the City of Port Angeles; therefore, the City of Port Angeles departments are authorized to do the following:

- 1) Suspend public works bidding and purchasing requirements and enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat such emergency situations to protect the health and safety of persons and property; and
- 2) Open and close City facilities as may be appropriate to respond to the pandemic; and
- 3) Modify business hours of City facilities as deemed appropriate by the Manager; and
- 4) Take other emergency actions to protect life and property, as appropriate; and
- 5) Use emergency funding, budgeting, and contracting provisions as appropriate; and
- 6) Develop and implement creative solutions to provide relief to those impacted by the economic implications as deemed fiscally and legally appropriate; and
- 7) Call out and use City personnel as needed in accordance with PAMC 2.24 and employ temporary workers as may be needed; and

It is the City's policy that no guarantees are implied by actions authorized above, and that there is no perfect emergency response system. In any given set of circumstances, the City of Port Angeles and its assets and systems may be overwhelmed, and the City can only try to make every reasonable effort to respond, based upon the situation, information, and resources available at that time.

Each City of Port Angeles department is authorized to exercise the powers vested under this proclamation in light of the exigencies of an extreme emergency situation without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements), such as publication of notices, renting equipment, etc.

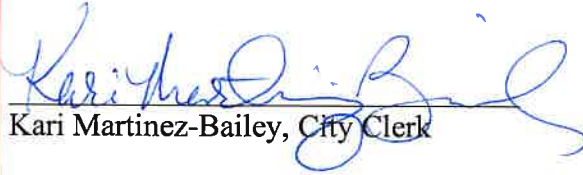
The emergency declared herein is effective immediately upon the date of adoption and will continue and remain in place until terminated, extended, or amended by further Declaration of the City Manager and/or City Council action.

This Proclamation was confirmed by the City Council on this 17 the day of March, 2020.



Nathan West, City Manager

Attest:



Kari Martinez-Bailey, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



William Bloor, City Attorney