



City of Patterson

Press Release – For Immediate Publication

March 16, 2020

Today, the City of Patterson City’s Director of Emergency Services, Ken Irwin, issued a Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency (“Proclamation”) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Proclamation follows President Trump’s declaration of a Nationwide Emergency earlier today, as well as Governor Newsom’s statewide declaration on March 4, 2020, and the World Health Organization’s characterization of the COVID-19 outbreak as a global pandemic this week.

Today’s Proclamation is an important step to allow additional resources to flow into the City, to assist with the costs of efforts already underway to curb the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health and safety of City residents. The City is prepared and will continue to plan to address any possible spread of the coronavirus.

The Director of Emergency Services, along with other City personnel, will remain in close contact with County and State public health officials as they continue to address the situation and will keep all residents apprised of further developments as they arise. The City Council will be asked to ratify the Proclamation within the next few days.

Residents are encouraged to contact (209) 895-8015 with any questions or concerns or visit our website at <http://www.ci.patterson.ca.us/> for important links.

CITY OF PATTERSON
Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency

By the *Director of Emergency Services (City Manager)* under the *Patterson Municipal Code Section 2.36 Emergency Services*

WHEREAS, Section 2.36 of the Patterson Municipal Code empowers the City Manager as the Director of emergency services to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency in the City of Patterson (the "City") if the City Council is not in session, subject to ratification by the City Council within seven (7) days.

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (the "C.D.C.") considers the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") to be a very serious public health threat with outcomes ranging from mild sickness to severe illness and death; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is easily transmissible from person to person and has spread globally to approximately one hundred eighteen (118) countries infected more than one hundred twenty-five thousand (125,000) people, and killed more than four thousand (4,000) people as of March 12, 2020, according to the World Health Organization (the "WHO"); and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public emergency for COVID-19 beginning on January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California (the "Governor"), declared a state of emergency in the State of California (the "State") due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the WHO characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Governor announced that State public health officials have determined that gatherings of more than two hundred fifty (250) people should be postponed or canceled across the State until at least the end of March; and

WHEREAS, as of March 12, 2020, there are two (2) cases of COVID-19 in the County of Stanislaus (the "County"), including an assumed case of community transmission; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the County Health Officer issued a Countywide moratorium on mass gatherings of one thousand (1,000) or more persons until March 31, 2020 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, and welfare of City residents, businesses, visitors, and staff are of utmost importance to the City, and additional future measures may be needed to protect the community; and

WHEREAS, declaring a local emergency allows additional resources to flow into the City in a timely fashion; and

WHEREAS, existing conditions related to COVID-19 constitute an emergency as defined in the Patterson Municipal Code Section 2.36, and

WHEREAS, The City Manager as the Director of Emergency Services under the Municipal Code of the City of Patterson hereby finds that:

- The efforts required to prepare for, respond to, mitigate, and recover from the increasing spread of COVID-19 have imposed, and will continue to impose, extraordinary requirements and expenses on the City, requiring diversion from day-to-day operations;
- In addition to the above facts, conditions or threatened conditions caused by COVID-19 including, but not limited to, potential isolation and quarantines of residents, employees, businesses, and public safety workers, give rise to conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the City;
- These conditions are, or are likely to be, beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the City; and
- At the time of this proclamation, the City Council is not in session, and cannot be called into session.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency now exists throughout the City due to COVID-19.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of the local emergency, the powers functions and duties of the *Director of Emergency Services (City Manager)* under the *Municipal Code* and the emergency organization of the City shall be those prescribed by State law, the ordinances and resolutions of the City, and the City of Patterson Emergency Plan.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that the local emergency shall expire unless ratified by the City Council within 7 days of this proclamation.



Ken Irwin
Director of Emergency Services / City Manager under the Patterson Municipal Code

3/16/2020
Date

Dated: 3/16/20

Approved as to Form:



Douglas L. White

For City Attorney, Tom Hallinan