

## RESOLUTION 2020-12

### A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE EXISTANCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF EL CERRITO

WHEREAS, El Cerrito Municipal Code 2.28.030, empowers the City Council to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when the City is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity; and

WHEREAS, the County of Contra Costa declared a local emergency within Contra Costa County on March 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has been requested by the City Manager to proclaim the existence of a local emergency therein; and

WHEREAS, conditions of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the City, commencing on March 13, 2020, caused by the introduction in Contra Costa County of coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”), an infectious disease to which there is no known natural immunity and for which there is currently no vaccine, which has become a pandemic, and which is contributing to a shortage of essential health care supplies; and

WHEREAS, the finding of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property is supported by the following facts, which are described in further detail in the accompanying staff report:

- a. A novel coronavirus (named “COVID-19” by the World Health Organization) was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, in December 2019. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has stated that COVID-19 is a serious public health threat, based on current information.
- b. Cases of COVID-19 have been diagnosed in the United States, primarily in individuals who have traveled to other countries, but there have been cases identified of “community spread” of COVID-19 involving individuals who have not traveled overseas and who have no known connections to overseas travel.
- c. In part, the virus is considered a very serious health threat because much is unknown. The exact modes of transmission, the factors facilitating human-to-human transmission, the extent of asymptomatic viral shedding, the groups most at risk of serious illness, the attack rate, and the case fatality rate all remain active areas of investigation.
- d. The number of reported cases of COVID-19 has escalated dramatically over a short period of time. According to the CDC, as of March 12, 2020, there have been 1,215 cases of COVID-19 detected, tested and confirmed in the United States. The World Health Organization has declared the outbreak to be a global pandemic.

- e. Cases of COVID-19 have been identified in Contra Costa County as well as in other Bay Area counties and other counties, including the County of Santa Clara, the County of Solano, and the City and County of San Francisco, and the County of San Mateo, and these public entities have made declarations of local emergency and declarations of local health emergency.

WHEREAS, these conditions of disaster or extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the City Manager and Assistant City Manager received a briefing from Contra Costa County Health Services, and based on that report, they determined to recommend that the City Council meet to declare a local public emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of El Cerrito that a local emergency now exists throughout the City of El Cerrito.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council determines that the COVID-19 pandemic and related local conditions constitute an emergency that potentially severely impairs public health and safety and a dire emergency because of its potential to cripple the ability of the City to function normally, which is a peril so immediate that an emergency meeting of the City Council with less than 24 hours' public notice was warranted to protect against endangering the public health and safety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the existence of the local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of the City of El Cerrito shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and resolutions of this City, by the County of Contra Costa, and by the City of El Cerrito Emergency Operations Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage and adoption.

I CERTIFY that at an emergency meeting on March 13, 2020 the City Council of the City of El Cerrito passed this Resolution by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Lyman; Mayor Pro Tem Fadelli; Councilmembers Abelson, Pardue-Okimoto, and Quinto  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

IN WITNESS of this action, I sign this document and affix the corporate seal of the City of El Cerrito on March 13, 2020.



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Holly M. Charléty, City Clerk

APPROVED:



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Gregory B. Lyman, Mayor